

THE
HOUSE OF FITCH

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THE HOUSE OF FITCH



by
George Fitch

FOREWORD

It is to be hoped that while the earth stands the sun may never cease to shine upon those who bear the name of Fitch.

It is an ancient and honourable name; a name which has been borne by men of distinction. Included in this great family have been men of honesty and truth, pure in heart and pure in deed. In its ranks have been those who have deported themselves with honour and distinction in other walks of life.

There have been men who have taken their place in exploration, colonization, administration, education, and in invention. Doctors, lawyers, manufacturers, business men, and professors. Lastly, but not least, there were those who have taken an active part in proclaiming the gospel. From early reformation days to the present time we have had our full share of those who have endeavored to prepare mankind for the Lord's return.

Let us therefore strive to keep this name untarnished until the day when we receive that new name in God's eternal kingdom.

G. F.

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NOTE OF GRATITUDE

The preparation of this little volume has taken a considerable amount of time and research and it is hoped that it will prove to be of interest to every member of the family and that each one will value it because of the record it bears of our ancestors and a family second to none.

The writer, at this time, must express his appreciation for the help and co-operation and financial assistance which has been so necessary in the preparation of this book. It is impossible to mention all of those whose help has made this work possible. There have been letters from various libraries, colleges, genealogists, and individuals. In addition, we have been fortunate to be able to draw heavily from the work of some who have spent untold time and money in genealogical research. Namely: *Genealogy of the Surdam Family*, by Charles Edward Surdam, published by the Jerseyman Press, Pierson & Surdam, Morristown, New Jersey, 1909, (One copy of this book is in the possession of the Earl B. Fitch family and is now out of print.) and *History of the Fitch Family, 1400-1930*, volumes I and II, compiled by Roscoe Conkling Fitch, printed by the Record Publishing Company, 17 - 21 West Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts, 1930. (These volumes are out of print but a copy is on file at the Library of Congress as well as in several other libraries in the United States. In order to have access to the information in these volumes, the writer purchased a photocopy of each page.)

A sincere effort has been made to obtain accurate and complete family records but it has been difficult, in some cases, to obtain detailed reports and to keep previous information up-to-date over the ensuing eight years of research. The writer regrets any errors and omissions which without a doubt will be found. Let it be known these were not intentional. Kindly send corrections and information on omissions to the writer (Mr. George Fitch, Box 1067, R.R. No. 1, Sylvan Lake, Alberta, Canada.) so

that a supplement could be printed if deemed possible.

To one and all we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation.

George Fitch

Note on Generation Numeration

Throughout the book generation numeration is done by successive indentation with appropriate numeration to indicate succeeding generations in order of descent. Names in CAPITALS indicate the first generation to be outlined. Capital letters with indentation indicate the second generation; Arabic numbers with indentation indicate the third generation; uncapitalized letters, the fourth generation; and uncapitalized Roman numerals, the fifth generation. A combination of these assist in tracing ancestors. For example, F3aii means, the second child (ii) of the first child (a) of the third child (3) of the sixth child (F) of the ORIGINAL generation outlined.



COAT OF ARMS

Registered at the College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.



Fitch

COAT OF ARMS

Reproduced from a hand painting. Recognized by Crozier as authentic for descendants of Thomas and James Fytche, from Essex, England, who came to America and settled in Norwalk, Connecticut, in the year 1638. The name is now written "FITCH" only.

THE COAT OF ARMS

The arms of the House of Fitch has been in possession of our ancestors and has been borne by them for centuries.

We find according to records in the British Museum that John Fitch who was living in Fitch Castle of the North in northeastern Essex was given armoural bearing in 1263. This John Fitch, although as yet not of a proven line, is no doubt of our ancestral stock since the family line appears by all records to date from Essex.

In all probability, the ancient arms of Fitch was first borne as early as the Wars of the Crusades. The Coat of Arms was a grant from the Sovereign to an individual and his descendants forever.

Our right to the arms is by descent from Roger Fitch of Panfield and Bocking, and through his great-grandson, Rev. James Fitch, who was born in Bocking Essex, December, 1622.

Description of the Arms and symbols is as follows:

- SHIELD: Vert, a chevron between three leopards' faces.
Signifies mirth, love, gladness.
- CHEVRON: Inverted gold.
Stands for Power.
- LEOPARDS: Three leopards' faces of gold on the shield.
Emblem of the Lords.
- SWORD: Sword blade of steel color or silver, hilt of gold or red in mouth of the leopard on the crest.
Shows forth strength, boldness, hardiness.
- MOTTO: "Spec juvat" or "Spes juvat" on ribbon of gold, lettered in green or black.

MOTTO

The motto, "Spes Juvat", is the motto chosen by grant to Rev. James Fitch and can be translated "Hope Helps," "Hope Assists," or "Joy in Hope." This latter is preferred by the writer.

Crozier, best considered of all of the published American heraldic authorities — records the above described coat of arms, crest and motto, as authentic for descendants of Thomas and James Fytche, from Essex, England, who settled in Norwalk, Connecticut, in the year 1638. The name is now written "FITCH" only.

It is worthy to note that the Arms of Fitch are what is known as a blue ribbon coat. This being of ancient origin. Originally a grant to bear arms was given only to such ones as had proved their worth in service to the Sovereign. Wealth or social position was not of importance but one requirement was that a man must have proved himself to be a gentleman in every respect.

It should be mentioned that the motto can be changed to suit the individual family branch. The motto ascribed to Rev. James Fitch who settled in Connecticut in 1638 was "Spes Juvat." That of his elder brother, Thomas Fitch was "Promptus et Certus" (Prompt and Certain). Two other brothers, Joseph and Samuel each had different mottoes but they all had the same Coat of Arms.

INTRODUCTION

ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY AND NAME OF FITCH

The Fitch family is one of the oldest in England and we find the name spelled in various ways, such as: Fiche, Fyche, ffitch, and Fitch.

At this time it may be well to quote from information received from Anthony J. Camp, Director of Research, Society of Genealogists, 37 Harrington Gardens, London, S.W.7, England.

“The origin of the surname Fitch has not been ascertained with any certainty, but a very large proportion of all who bore it in early times are found in Suffolk and Essex and may all have been one stock. The best summary of the information with regard to the origin of the name is P. H. Reaney’s *A Dictionary of British Surnames* (London, 1958) sub Fitch:

Fitch, Fitchell, Fitchen, Fitchet, Fitchett: Hugh, Roger, William Fiche 1243 Assize Rolls for Somerset, 1297 Subsidy Rolls for Yorksire, 1327 Subsidy Rolls for Suffolk; *Fichet* 1201 Curia Regis Rolls for Kent; Hugh, Robert, Walter *Fichet* 1176, 1183 Pipe Rolls for Dorset and Northamptonshire, 1194 Curia Regis Rolls for Herefordshire. The common derivation of *Fitch* and *Fitchet* from the polecat is untenable. This word is from Old French *fissell*, plural *fissaulx*, later *fissau*, with forms *fitchewes* 1394, *fycheux* 1418, *fechets* 1535, *fichat* 1653 (Oxford, New English Dictionary). This late development of *-et* cannot account for the 12th century *Fichet*. We may compare the French *Fiche, Fichet, Fichot*, which Dauzat derives from Old French *fiche* ‘an iron point’, from *ficher* ‘to fix, plant’. *Fitch* is thus ‘an iron pointed implement’ used by metonymy for *Fitcher*, the workman who uses this, and *Fitchen* and *Fitchet* are diminutives. As Hugh Malet is said to have abandoned for a time his nickname ‘Little hammer’ in favour of *Fichet*, *fiche* must have been used of a pointed weapon, a spear or

lance, and *Fitch* and *Fitchett* of a spearman or a knight famous for his exploits with the lance. By the side of these, French has the Norman *Fiquet*, whence the English *Fickett*, the simple *Fick*, with *Feakes* and *Feek(s)*, the diminutive *Ficken*, the occupative *Ficker* and the apparently obsolete AEdredus *Fikeman* 1180 Pipe Rolls for Worcestershire, Nicholas *Fekeman* 1327 Subsidy Rolls for Suffolk. Fichard *Fikberd* 1277 (Ely; B. M. Cott, Claud, C xi) probably wore a pointed beard. With these names must be taken *Figg*, *Figgett*, *Figgitt*, and *Figgins*, with the non-surviving diminutive Alfwinus *Figgel* 1166 Pipe Rolls for Kent, Richard *Figel* 1279 Rotuli Hundredorum for Bedfordshire, where we have the voicing of *k* to *g* as in *Picot* and *Piggott*. Here, too, must belong *Fidge*, and *Fidgett*, with a similar voicing of *ch* to *dg*. No early examples of *Fidgett* have been found. It cannot be associated with common *fidgett* which occurs too late to have given a surname, apart from the difficulty of derivation. *Fitch*, like *Fick* and *Fichet*, may have been used as a personal name. cf. also *Fechel* de Fercalahn 1225-50 (Gilbert's Historic and Municipal Documents of Ireland). This would account for the diminutives. *Fitcher*, *Ficker* and *Fikeman* must be occupational.

"The first mention of the name yet noted is William Fich of Cotton, Suffolk, in an Assize Roll of 1240. Down to the early fifteenth century the references so far noted are in records of lawsuits and taxation returns, and the bearers of the name appear to be yeomen, husbandmen or cotters. A William Fiche paid subsidy at Cavendish, Suffolk, in 1327, but local continuity, though not yet a proved pedigree, begins with John Fych who paid the poll tax in Steeple Bumpstead, Essex — some eight miles away — in 1381.

"The first ancestor of a proved, connected line of descent still remains William Fiche of Wicken and Widdington, Essex, who occurs repeatedly as a

litigant in De Banco Rolls between 1428 and his death in 1466. Thomas Fitch (died 1514), this William's grandson, improved his standing by marrying about 1490 the heiress of a yeoman family of Algore of Brazenhead in Lindsell, Essex. He appears to have used arms based perhaps on those of his neighbours, the Wentworths, who had acquired the manor of Lindsell and others near it by marriage in 1423. Many of his descendants were entered by the Heralds at their Visitations of 1558, 1612, 1634, and 1664, including mention of his son, Roger, the ancestor of the American branch of this family."

From the foregoing it will be seen that the true origin is still shrouded in uncertainty in spite of the tremendous amount of research which has been done throughout the past number of decades.

R. D. Graham—Vivian, M.V.O.M.C. Windsor Herald, College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4 England, in a letter written March 16, 1965 states:

"I have now made a search in Records of the College regarding the family and Arms of Fitch.

It is fortunate that between the two Wars a great deal of research was done on the Essex Fitches by a wealthy London gentleman of the name (now dead). This resulted in proved Pedigrees of several lines in our Records, much more complete than most."

(The American branch is descended from one of these proven lines.)

A most outstanding record of the Fitch family was compiled in 1930 by Colonel Roscoe Conkling Fitch, and published privately by the Fitch family in two volumes under the title of *History of the Fitch Family A.D. 1400 to 1930* by the Record Publishing Company, 17-21 West Street, Haverhill, Mass. References are quoted from these volumes in the following pages. This work contains a record of the Fitches in England and America, including "Pedigree of Fitch" certified by the College of Arms, London, England.

We must now give further consideration to the origin of the family.

History records that England was overrun by various barbaric tribes during the first millenium of the Christian era. The question is: "Where did we come in?" In searching for the answer to this question we must of necessity rely largely on tradition and opinions expressed by those who have searched available records on file with the "College of Arms" and in the "British Museum", as well as those contained in records of the "Heralds' Visitations of Essex", and also in various libraries throughout England.

The late Professor Asa Fitch, State Entomologist of New York, expressed an opinion that the Fitches were of Saxon origin. He said that there is a traditionary legend that the family came to England from Saxony with Erkenwin from a place having a German name, meaning in English "Fitchfields", settling in Essex about 530 A.D.

Dr. William Edward Fitch, a prominent physician and author, however, concludes we are of Norman descent. Dr. Fitch, together with Silas Hedding Fitch, wrote an unpublished book, *Fitch Genealogy*, in which the results of their research is clearly set forth. The following from Dr. Fitch's writings would seem to be the most logical conclusion. (*History of the Fitch Family A.D. 1400 to 1930*, Roscoe Conkling Fitch, volume I, p. 2.)

"The Fitch family traces its first settlement in England to the era of the Norman conquest A.D. 1066. Morant's 'History of County Essex, England,' says that 'Robert Gernon or de Gernon came from France along with William the Conqueror and that he was a relative of the "Conqueror" and of the "House of Boulogne." One of his sons took the name of de Montfichet, or de Montfiquet — the name is written these three ways in "Doomsday Book." In Normandy near Bayeaux is a village, Montfiquet, and it is a section from whence came some of the Conqueror's most illustrious followers.'

"William the Conqueror gave the manor of

Wraysbury as a special donation to his blood relative, Robert de Gernon, who held it as part of his barony of which the head was at Stanstead-Montfitchet in Essex. Here he built a castle on a hill artificially raised for the foundation; this castle he presented to his youngest son, William de Gernon, who in accordance with the custom of the time, dropped the patronymic of de Gernon and assumed the appellative, 'Montfitchet.' (Gylls 'History of Wraysbury.')

"Morant's 'History of Essex' says that William de Gernon took his name of Montfitchet from the Castle of Stanstead, County Essex, from the raised mount (Mons Fixus) which his father, Robert de Gernon, there constructed and on which the castle stood. But there is near Bayeaux in Normandy, a place called Montfiquet."

"William de Gernon, who assumed the appellative, de Montfitchet, married Margaret, daughter of Gilbert, second Lord of Clare, and has a son, Gilbert de Montfitchet, who had a son, Richard de Montfitchet. He was one of the Barons at Runnymede A.D. 1225 who wrested the Magna Charta from King John and was one of the 25 barons appointed to rule the Realm. (Ed. This was the second signing of the Magna Charta.) In 1236 he (Richard de Montfitchet) was made Justice of the Royal Forest in Essex and in 1242, High Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire and Governor of Hertford Castle. His third son was Roger de Montfitchet of Wraysbury, who had a son, John de Montfitchet, who tired of the prefix, 'Mont,' dropped it and spelled his name, John Fitch, leaving off the 't.' He was granted Armorial bearings in the year 1263, and was of 'Fitch Castle in the North,' 1294."

The following quotation is copied from Colonel R. C. Fitch's *History of the Fitch Family*, Vol. I, p. 3, and is credited to research conducted by Professor Asa Fitch.

"In the records of the Heralds' Office in London,

the genealogy of the Fitch Family 'is quite full — much more so than common.' In the Heralds' Visitations to Essex, the family pedigree is traced back, from sons to fathers step by step to William, second son of John Fitch, who was living in Fitch Castle (in the parish of Widdington in the northwest part of Essex) in the twenty-second year of the reign of Edward I—i.e., A.D. 1294—two hundred years before Columbus discovered America. 'Few families in England can date so far back as this.'

"The Fitches have a large quantity of books indexed in the British Museum. There are pages of Fitch authors. The family has done good work."

From the foregoing, the reader must of necessity accept the fact that whether of Saxon or Norman decent, the family and name has stood for nearly six centuries according to definite proven records. Further, we find the name entered in records of even more ancient times; in fact, even to the Crusades and the age of chivalry, (or in the words of the poet), "In days of old when knights were bold and ladies passing fair—." In those times, doubtless, knights of the name of Fitch rode forth in shining armor, and bearing the ancient 'Arms of Fitch' followed King Richard I in his war against the Saracen hoards, which at that time were over-running the Holy Land.

"That the Fitches were warriors of brave heart and strong arm is proven by the Coat of Arms, for the chevron betokens achievement of important trusts, and was given only to military leaders of great valor whose courage and powers could be depended on in battle." (*History of Fitch Family*, R. C. Fitch, Vol. I, p. 41.)

"The Fitch Coat of Arms has a very ancient origin and the right to the use of the arms has been a proud prerogative of succeeding generations through the centuries.

"Many of the most ancient coats were borne

several hundred years before the Heralds' College was incorporated in the reign of Richard III (1483-1485), when the introduction of gunpowder had reduced the importance of use of armorial bearings in war.

"Arms first came into use at the end of the twelfth century. They then served a very practical purpose. They enabled the great tenants and their followers to distinguish one another in time of war. There is no evidence that arms in the early days were granted by the Crown. They were regarded as a species of private property and their use was governed by custom rather than by rule". (Vol. I, p. 37.)

"Since the Crown took over the supervision of the use of the arms in 1493, through its heralds, definite rules and laws govern their use.

"The social revolution of the first half of the sixteenth century produced a great number of new families, whose unauthorized use of coats led to the establishment of the so-called "Visitations." These extended from Elizabeth's time to the reign of Charles II. These Visitations served the purpose of keeping the use of coat armor within the proper limits.

"To sum up, a coat of arms is a mark of honor denoting by different figures and tinctures, variously arranged and displayed, the descent, alliance, service of the bearer, paternal or hereditary, belonging to a particular family.

"The blue-ribbon coats are those that have been used by a family time out of mind, since the Middle Ages, regardless of whether or not they are registered at the College of Arms, London. The ancient Fitch arms is a blue-ribbon coat and has been registered at the Heralds' College as well as used for many centuries." (Vol. 1, p. 38.)

"The science of the shield is ancient and honor-

able and not without pleasure and profit to those who make it an object of serious study; to them it speaks from church and manor house, it illumines those documents and parchments already dusty with age, and makes the storied past live and move before their eyes. They think on Evesham and the Great Earl anxiously scanning the tumult of banners before that advancing host, his life hanging on the arms they bore. He saw at last the leopards of England, the chevrons of the House of Clare, and cried, as the fatal coats told him that all was over, 'let us commend our souls to God, for our bodies are the foe's.' " (Dr. J. Horace Round, who has no equal among the students of medieval England.) (Vol. I, p. 37.)

CHAPTER I

EARLY FITCH FAMILIES IN ENGLAND

According to records in the British Museum, the Fitch ancestry is traced back to William, the second son of John Fitch, who was living in Fitch Castle in the Parish of Widdington in 1294 A.D.

It would seem, however, this William Fitch could hardly be the same William who was of the Manor of Wicken, and Widdington, County Essex, whose death was reported at Court of the Manor Widdington held 24 April 1466; this William Fitch is definitely placed by the College of Arms as being a direct and proven ancestor of the American branch of the family. (The difference in the spelling of the surname is of little consequence as has already been noted.)

In explaining the seeming discrepancy between the two Williams in the above paragraph, it is wise to quote from a letter from the College of Arms written to R. C. Fitch by A. T. Butler, Portcullis, College of Arms, October 1, 1929.

“Enclosed are some notes on the Heralds Visitations from which you will see that only those which have been permanently in the custody of the College have any official value. Several copies must have been made by private individuals of most of the Visitations and a number of these after drifting about the country from one library to another landed eventually in the British Museum. These copies were never official records in any way and were subject to additions and alterations at the caprice of their various owners and it is from these copies that the printed so-called Visitations were made.”

For the following, we are indebted to Colonel Roscoe C. Fitch, *History of the Fitch Family 1400 to 1930*, volume I, pp. 11, 12, 21.

FITCH ANCESTRY IN ENGLAND FROM A.D. 1400 (As Certified by the College of Arms, London)

I. WILLIAM FICHE, otherwise Fyche. Born about 1400. Received a grant of lands in the Manor of Widdington, Co. Essex, 18 January, 1441. Bought other lands there from Richard Pelworth, 16 January, 1459. Death reported at Court of the Manor held 24 April, 1466. He had a son:

II. JOHN FYTCHE, found to be heir of his father by Inquisitions, 24 April, 1466 and May 1467, he being then aged 30 years and more. Death reported at Court Manor of Widdington held 9 April, 1468.

He married Juliana _____. She was appointed guardian of her son, Thomas, 9 April, 1468. She married as second husband, Richard Westeley. Her death was reported at the Court of the Manor of Widdington held 9 November, 1514. John and Juliana Fytche had a son:

III. THOMAS FITCH, found to be heir of his father by Inquisition 9 April, 1468, he being then aged 3 years. He was admitted to his inheritance 8 November, 1487, and to his mother's lands in Widdington 9 November, 1514. His death was reported at the Court of the Manor of Lindsell 23 December, 1514, and at Court of the Manor of Widdington 9 November, 1514.

He married Agnes Alger, also written Algore, only child and heir of Robert Algore, Lord of Castle Brasonhead and other lands. She was admitted tenant of her father's lands 21 December, 1493. She died before 25 September, 1533.

Thomas and Agnes (Alger) Fitch had children.

A. Richard Fitch. He was the eldest son and succeeded to his father's lands in the Manor of Widdington, 9 November, 1514.

B. William Fitch of Little Canfield, Co. Essex, died 26 December, 1578, aged 82. Buried at Little Canfield, M. I. Will dated 13 October, 1577, proved 12 January, 1578-9. P. C. C. Married Elizabeth, buried at Little

Canfield, first wife. Married, second, Anne, daughter of John Wiseman of Felstead, Co. Essex. Mentioned in her father's will 1559. Sole executrix to her husband's will 1579. She married at Little Canfield, M. I.

IV.

C. ROGER FITCH of Panfield and Bocking, Co. Essex. Held a house and freehold land in Bocking and a house in Bredford Street there which he bought of William Dubson. Will dated 12 January, 1558-9, proved 22 February, following in the Consistory Court of London. Married Margery. Sole executrix of her husband's will 1559. He was admitted tenant of Hartshede, etc., in Lindsell (being his mother's lands), 25 September, 1533. He was mentioned in the Court Rolls of Widdington 6 May, 1546.

D. Thomas Fitch of Brasonhead aforesaid. Married Margaret, daughter of ----- Meade of Margaretting, Co. Essex. He was admitted tenant of the lands in the Manor of Widdington 3 May, 1527.

E. Margaret Fitch. She was the eldest daughter and was aged about 11 years in 1505.

F. Katharine Fitch. She was mentioned in settlement, dated 1505.

G. Joan Fitch. She was mentioned in settlement, dated 1505.

V. GEORGE FITCH of Braintree, afterwards Suffolk. Son of Roger Fitch.

VI. THOMAS FITCH of Bocking. Son of George Fitch.

It may be of interest to here note that Agnes (Alger) Fitch's father, Robert Algore, married Margaret ----- She made a settlement of lands in Lindsell on her Fitch granddaughters shortly before her death. Her death was

reported at Court of the Manor of Lindsell December 21, 1505.

Manor of Widdington, Essex

“Widdington Hall stands in the Parish of Widdington, Essex, a little to the southeast of the church, which is a very ancient building and used to have at one end of the building a chapel now converted into a parlour. The walls of the church are 30 feet thick. Many generations of Fitches were parishioners of this ancient church. This manor continued for several generations in the holding of Robert de Gernon and his posterity which took the surname of de Montfichet.”

Castle Brasonhead, Lindsell, Essex

“Lindsell Hall is near the Church of Lindsell, three miles from Dunmow in Essex. It was purchased in 1529 by William Fitch, Esq., eldest son of Thomas Fitch of Castle Brasonhead, also written Brazen Head, capital mansion in this Parish, so-named from a wolf's head of brass affixed to the top of the outer gateway of the castle. (This wolf's head of brass is now in the British Museum.) Richard Fitch, the eldest son of Thomas and Agnes (Alger) Fitch, succeeded his father at Brasonhead, which had come into possession of the Fitch Family as the inheritance of Thomas' wife, Agnes, only daughter and sole heir of Robert Alger, Esq., lord of Brasonhead. Thomas Fitch, brother and successor to Richard Fitch, married Margaret Meade, of Margaretting, Essex.”

To the reader who may have an interest in ancient records concerning our early Fitch ancestors, we here quote three extracts from ‘Widdington Court Rolls’ (now in possession of New College, Oxford) ‘English Translation.’

Fine 25. 18 January 19 Henry VI (1440)

To this court came William Michell and sur-

rendered into the lord's hand half an acre of land to the use of William Fiche, to which same William the lord granted seisin thereof. To hold to the same William and his heirs of the lord, at the will (of the lord) by all of ancient services. And he gave the lord of fine as appears. And did fealty to the lord.

The above William Fiche was our proven ancestor whose death was reported in 1466. The following mentioned John Fytche, Thomas Fycche, and Richard Fycche are the second, third and fourth generation of a proven line. (Continuation of quote.)

9 April, 8 Edward IV (1468)

That John Fytche died after the last court and that he held of the lord, the day he died, in his demesne, as of fee, according to the custom of the manor, &c., one acre and a half of meadow, lying in Creswelfeld late John Revell's and 2 acres of land, whereof one acre lies in Purdonfeld late William Fytches's, his father's. And that Thomas is his son and next heir and aged 3 years etc. And because of his youth, the custody of the said land and meadow committed to his mother, Julian, to hold and occupy the same to the use of the said heir, until &c. paying &c.

Fine of
the heir
8s. 4d.

Thursday after St. Leonard Abbot, 6 Henry VIII.
And that Thomas Fycche who held of the lord, the day of his death, at will, 3 roods of land and one acre of meadow lying in the field called Cressewelfeld and Cressewelmedowe . . . And that Richard Fycche is his son and next heir of the said Thomas and of full age, who is present in court and comes and begs to be admitted tenant of all the aforesaid . . . and is admitted . . . Whereupon in the same court came the said Richard Fycche and surrendered into the lord's hands the aforesaid lands and meadows with

their appurtenances to the use of Agnes, his mother, late the wife of the said Thomas . . . And as well the said Richard as the said Agnes made fine and fealty to the lord as appears at the head.

That the continuity of the family line of descent may be less confusing for the reader to follow, we will now deal with the family line beginning with William Fitch to the first of his decendants to settle in America. There will of necessity be some repetition of preceding information. We will also in most cases include only those in the direct line leading to the immigrants.

William Fiche, whose death was reported April 24, 1466, is the first of a proven line. There seems to be no record of his wife's name.

William had a son John Fytche, born about 1437, and whose death was reported April 9, 1468. John married Juliana. Her death was reported November 9, 1514.

The third generation was Thomas Fitch son of John and Juliana. Thomas was born 1465 and died April 9, 1514. He married Agnes Algore, an heiress, and came into possession of the Algore estate. Agnes died before September 25, 1533.

Thomas and Agnes had children. Their third son, Roger Fitch of Panfield and Bocking, was the fourth generation. Date of birth uncertain; died February 1559. Roger's wife's name was Margery. They had children.

The fifth generation was a son of Roger and Margery. Name George Fitch who resided in Braintree, afterwards Suffolk. George was born about 1537 or 38. He died 1605. He married his first wife, Joan Thurgood, of Elsenham County of Essex, on September 13, 1574.

George and Joan Fitch's son Thomas was born 1590 and died 1632. Thomas Fitch married Anne Reeve on August 8, 1611. Anne was a daughter of John Reeve of Gosfield, Essex. Thomas the sixth generation and his wife Anne had ten children, four of which immigrated to America. Anne also came to America after the death of her husband Thomas.

CHAPTER II

FIRST IMMIGRANTS TO AMERICA

At this point, before proceeding with our direct line in America, it will be of interest to mention some of the early immigrants of the name of Fitch.

CAPTAIN MATTHEW FITCH was one of the founders of the Virginia Plantation at Jamestown, Virginia. He had command of his own ship and made three voyages, 1607, 1608, and 1609. On his last voyage the fleet was scattered by a gulf storm and Captain Fitch was lost at sea. We have no record of descendants.

JOHN FITCH and his wife Abigail and his brother James came to Massachusetts in the 'Defence' in 1635. No record of descendants. (Pope's Pioneers of Mass.)

JOHN FITCH of Windsor, Connecticut settled there in 1643. He married Mrs. Anna Hillier December 9, 1656. He was mortally wounded in the 'Great Swamp Fight' at the Narragansett fort during King Philip's Indian War, December 19, 1675. He was buried May 10, 1676. His wife died June 29, 1686. He has not been placed as to his ancestry in England, but it is a matter of little importance since he left no descendants.

DEACON ZACHARY FITCH of Reading, Massachusetts settled there in 1635. He had seven sons and one daughter. This family founded Fitchburg, Massachusetts. A complete record of six generations of this family is found in R. C. Fitch's *History of the Fitch Family*. Zachary's ancestors were located in Hertfordshire, England, and while no definite proof has been found, it is altogether probable they are of the same stock as the Essex Fitches.

ANNE (FITCH) LEVERETT, mother of Governor John Leverett of Massachusetts came from Lincolnshire, England, with Rev. John Cotton, a friend of Rev. Thomas Hooker and of the Fitches of Bocking, but is still not placed as to exact ancestry in England.

JAMES FITCH and wife, of Brookline, Massachusetts, came in 1635 and settled there. They had one daughter.

RICHARD FITCH of Boston, Massachusetts also died childless.

JOHN FITCH of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, killed in the obstinate Indian fight at Rehoboth, 26 March, 1675; there were four daughters and one son who died a minor.

JOHN FITCH of Gloucester, Massachusetts, married Mrs. Mary Coil in 1667 but left no descendants.

The following is quoted from the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 46, p. 323, 1892.

WILL OF THOMAS FITCH OF BOCKING, ESSEX, ENGLAND

“I, Thomas Fitch, in the full possession of my mental faculties make this my last will and testament, Dec. 11, 1632.

“To the poor of Bocking three pounds.

“To my eldest son, Thomas that chief Messuage wherein I now dwell in Bocking and the messuage adjoining, now in the occupation of the said Thomas and all the lands, tenements &c which I purchased of William Collyn in Bocking and the lands and tenements in Bocking, which I lately purchased of Thomas Trotter, upon condition that he pay my sister, Stracey, twenty shillings yearly, during her natural life.

“To my son John and his heirs forever, the messuage in Bocking late of Richard Usher, deceased, and which I lately purchased of Paul Usher and Peter Kirby and Ursula Bond, widow, and the little garden or orchard in Bocking, now in the occupation of Richard Skinner or his assigns and the tenement in the occupation of Thomas Laye, in Bocking, by Panfield Lane and the great orchard adjoining, which

I purchased of Mr. Thomas Trotter, to enter upon the same at his age of one and twenty years.

“To my son John, two hundred pounds at one and twenty.

“Item. I give to my sonne James, one hundred pounds, to be paid him when he shall be a bachelor of Arts of two years standing in the University of Cambridge, for I desire he should be bredde up a scholler. And I also give him, and my minde is that he shall have thirtie pounds a year paid him by my Executrix out of my lands and tenements, from the time of his admission to be a scholler in Cambridge until he be or shall have tyme to be a master of Arts.”

“To my sons, Nathaniel and Jeremy, to either of them a moiety and half part of the farm, messuage, lands and tenements, both free and copy, lying and being in Birch or elsewhere in Essex, which I lately purchased of William Brock, gent., to be equally divided between them and they to enter up the same at their several ages of one and twenty.

“My executrix shall lay out six hundred and fifty pounds within one year after my decease and shall purchase with the same as much land and tenements within the County of Essex as the same will buy in a frugal and good manner, to be assured to the use of my two younger sons, Samuel and Joseph. And my wife Anne shall have the lands and tenements in Birch, which I have given to Nathaniel and Jeremy and the lands &c to be purchased for Samuel and Joseph until these four sons shall severally accomplish their ages of sixteen years, &c.

“To my three daughters, Mary, Anna and Sara, three hundred pounds apiece, whereof two hundred pounds apiece are to be paid at their several ages of eighteen and the other hundred at one and twenty.

“To my loving friends, Mr. Hooker, Mr. Nathaniel Rogers, Mr. Daniel Rogers and Mr. Collins, twenty shillings apiece as a token of my love.

“To my son Thomas my great oil cistern of lead, so as he give and deliver to my son John the little cistern of lead for oil which I late bought and gave to Thomas.

“To my brother, John Malden and my sister, his wife, twenty shillings apiece. To Henry Stacy, my kinsman, five pounds. To my brothers John Reeve and William Stracy forty shillings apiece and to my brother Jeremy Reeve twenty shillings as a token of my love. The residue to my wife whom I make sole executor, she to enter upon a bond of two thousand pounds to my said brothers, Reeve and William Stracy with condition to prove this will within two months after my decease, and to pay all the legacies and perform all things contained there. My said brothers to be supervisors.

“Wm. Lyngwood, one of the witnesses.

“Proven and probated on the
12th day of Dec. 1633-Annoque Dom.”

In the following chapter we will proceed with the descendants of Thomas Fitch of Brocking and those of his children who settled in Connecticut.

CHAPTER III

DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS FITCH AND HIS WIFE ANNE REEVE OF BOCKING, ENGLAND, WHO SETTLED IN AMERICA

The preceding chapter dealt with our direct family line in varying detail, namely: I. William Fitch, b. 1400; II. John Fytche, b. about 1436; III. Thomas Fitch, b. 1465; IV. Roger Fitch of Panfield and Bocking, b. -----; V. George Fitch of Braintree, Essex, afterwards Suffolk, b. about 1537 or '38; VI. Thomas Fitch of Bocking, b. 1590.

This chapter records the following generations in varying detail, namely: VI. Thomas Fitch of Bocking, b. 1590; VII. Rev. James Fitch, b. 1622 (the first of our line who settled in America); VIII. Nathaniel Fitch, b. 1679; IX. Joshua Fitch, b. February 13, 1704; X. Jonathan Fitch, b. December 1, 1730; XI. David Fitch, b. May 8, 1769.

In chapters IV, V, and VI is found a branching of the family line as follows:

XII. Adoniram Fitch, b. April 1, 1808.) Adoniram
John S. Fitch, b. Feb. 28, 1811) and John S.
were brothers.

XIII. John Surdam "Jack" Fitch, b. Mar. 5, 1859. (Son of Adoniram) Orson David Fitch, b. Sept. 8, 1847. (Son of John S. Fitch)

Thomas Fitch of Bocking, Essex, was the father of ten children, of which four sons were early settlers in Connecticut. The sons were Thomas, James, Samuel, and Joseph.

Thomas Fitch, of Bocking, was born in 1590, and christened in 1598. He was the eldest son of George Fitch and his first wife, Joan Thurgood, and a great, great, grandson of Thomas Fitch and Agnes (Algore) Fitch. Therefore, the sixth generation of a direct proven line.

According to church records at Bocking, Deanery,

Braintree, Essex, Thomas of Bocking married Anne Reeve in St. Mary's Church in Bocking on August 8, 1611. He was a large land owner and cloth manufacturer. He died in January 1632. His will is recorded in the New England Historic and Genealogical Register, Vol. 46. It was dated December 11, 1632 and proved February 12, 1633. (See chapter II.)

THOMAS FITCH of Bocking Essex, b. 1590; d. 1633.

ANNE REEVE, b.; d.

Married August 8, 1611.

Their children are listed in order of birth.

A. THOMAS was born at Bocking, October 14, 1612 and married Anne Stacie, November 1, 1632. According to our best information, he came to Connecticut in December of 1638 and brought his younger brother, James. There is no record available as to how long he stayed, but it is evident he was back in England during the Parliamentary Wars, as his will makes reference to his 'great expense in the Civil Wars in England.'

Thomas was one of the founders of Norwalk, Connecticut, and is referred to as Thomas Fitch I of Norwalk. He is reported to have been one of the richest men in the colonies. He left a long line of descendants in America.

B. John, the second son, remained in England.

C. JAMES, the third son, came to Connecticut in 1638 and a rather complete account will appear later.

D. Nathaniel was born December 26, 1632 and died 1649.

E. Jeremy was born August 5, 1625.

F. SAMUEL was born November 9, 1626. He was engaged to teach school at Hartford, Connecticut in 1650.

G. JOSEPH first settled in Norwalk, Connecticut in 1650, later in Northampton, Massachusetts, then Hartford, and finally in Windsor in 1672. This Joseph Fitch was the great grandfather of Lieut. John Fitch, inventor

of the steamboat. A brief account of Lieut. John Fitch will appear in chapter XIV.

H. Mary was born March, 1629.

I. Anne was born August 6, 1630.

J. Sara was born July 24, 1631.

The mother, Anne (Reeve) Fitch, evidently came to Connecticut about the same time as Joseph, as she was living in Hartford in 1669.

JAMES FITCH

We will now proceed with James Fitch the third son of Thomas Fitch of Bocking.

James was born at Bocking, Essex, England, on December 24, 1622. He was the seventh generation of a direct proven line from William Fitch. Ancestors in order are: I. William Fitch; II. John Fytche; III. Thomas Fitch of Brasonhead; IV. Roger Fitch of Panfield and Bocking, Essex; V. George Fitch of Braintree, Essex; VI. Thomas Fitch of Bocking, Essex; VII. James Fitch, the first of our line who settled in Connecticut, and will be referred to as the Reverend James Fitch.

Rev. James Fitch settled in Hartford, Connecticut in 1638 where he continued his training for the ministry under the Rev. Thomas Hooker and the Rev. Samuel Stone.

In 1646 a church was organized at Saybrook, Connecticut and James Fitch was ordained as the first minister of the Congregational Church at this settlement.

In 1659 he, with a part of the membership at Saybrook, took up residence at Norwich, Connecticut where the township of Norwich had been surveyed. It is said that Mr. Fitch and Major Mason were allowed first choice of lots.

Quote from *History of the Fitch Family*, Vol. II, p. 2:

“The original deed of cession of Norwich from the Indian Chiefs signed by Uncas and his brother Wawequaw under date of August 15, 1659, was rat-

ified and confirmed by 'Owaneco, Sachem of Mohegan, son and heir unto Uncas deceased' and 'Joseph, son and heir unto Owaneco' in a new deed signed by them Oct. 5, 1685 and acknowledged before Major James Fitch II, Assistant Governor and eldest son of Rev. Mr. James Fitch.

"Shortly after his arrival at the new settlement of Norwich, the Hartford church extended to him a flattering call to be their pastor, but though this offered him a wider field and greater influence, his only reply was, 'With whom then, shall I leave these few sheep in the wilderness?'

"Rev. Mr. Fitch was considered a man of great learning and was called by Cotton Mather, 'the holy, astute and learned Mr. Fitch.'"

Throughout his long life the Rev. James Fitch worked unceasingly for the salvation of the Mohegan Indians. Through his kindness and interest in their welfare he won their respect, and support of the settlers in the colonial wars.

The war with King Philip commenced in June, 1675, and lasted a matter of fifteen months. Mr. Fitch acted as an active agent between the government and the Indians. Before the end of July, fifty Mohegan warriors under the command of Chief Owaneco left for Boston to offer their services against the Pocasset Chief. They paused at Norwich to obtain letters from Rev. Mr. Fitch and Lieut. Mason and then proceeded to the Bay. It was this war party of Indians, placed in the field through the personal influence of Rev. Fitch that on August 1, 1675 fell upon the rear of Philip's forces at Rehoboth plain, and killed a number of his men, among whom was one of his bravest captains, named Woonashum.

During September 1675, the whole force of the Mohegans and Pequots were active in the field on the colonists side.

On January 25, 1676, Rev. Mr. Fitch acted as chaplain of a Connecticut army commanded by Major Treat which was raised by the colonies for the defence of the settle-

ments and for an offensive against the Narragansett Indians who had murdered many of the colonists and laid waste their habitations. This was a few days after the "direful swamp fight" at the Narragansett fort on December 19, 1675.

During the period of unrest, the Fast Day appointed by the council (March 22, 1676) was observed with great solemnity by Rev. Mr. Fitch and his congregation.

In 1674 Rev. James Fitch preached the oldest election sermon on record in Connecticut. Text used was, "For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about and will be the glory in the midst of her." Zechariah 2:5. (Reference, See Connecticut Collection Records 2, 222). It was published in Cambridge 1674, and a complete copy, except the title page is lacking, may be seen in the Yale University Library, New Haven, Connecticut.

Mr. Fitch was the founder of Lebanon, Connecticut. It is said that the extensive cedar forests in the area probably suggested to him the "Cedars of Lebanon" and the building of Solomon's temple. Thus the name of Lebanon.

In 1695 Rev. Fitch was stricken with palsy and rendered unable to preach. In 1701 he retired to Lebanon where he died November 18, 1702, in his 80th year and was buried there. His three younger sons, Captain Nathaniel, Joseph, and Deacon Eleazer are all buried near their father with headstones marking their graves.

Rev. James Fitch's funeral service was probably conducted by his tenth son, the Rev. Mr. Jabez Fitch, who is credited with writing the inscription on his tombstone. The following is a translation from the original Latin.

"In this grave are deposited the remains of that truly reverend man, Mr. James Fitch. He was born in Bocking, in the County of Essex, in England, the 24th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1622; who after he had been most excellently taught the learned languages came into New England at the age of sixteen, and then spent seven years under the instructions of those very famous men, Mr. Hooker

and Mr. Stone. Afterwards he discharged the pastoral office fourteen years at Saybrook. Thence he removed with the major part of his Church to Norwich, where he spent the other years of his life in the work of the gospel. In his old age indeed he was obliged to cease from his public labors by reason of bodily indisposition and at length retired to his children at Lebanon, where after spending nearly half a year, he slept in Jesus in the year 1702, on the 18th day of November, in the 80th year of his age."

"He was a man as to the smartness of his genius, the solidity of his judgment, his charity, holy labors, and every kind of purity of life, and also as to his skill and energy of preaching, inferior to none."

In October 1648, the Rev. James Fitch married Abigail Whitfield, daughter of Rev. Mr. Henry Whitfield.

Mr. Whitfield came from an old land owning family in England and was the son of an eminent English lawyer. At one time he presided over a parish at Ockley, County Surrey. He came to America in 1637.

The Whitfields were directly descended from the father of Geoffrey Chaucer, who is sometimes termed the father of English poetry. Geoffrey's sister Catharine married Simon Manning. In searching the Pedigree of Whitfield, we find a family connection between the Whitfields, the Mannings, and the poets, Chaucer and Shelley.

It will be of interest at this time to mention that Chaucer was a kinsman of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and son of Edward III who was crowned in 1327. Prince John of Gaunt was a brother of the Black Prince, the first prince of Wales. We might add that this was the period during which "Fitch Castle in the North" stood as a fortress and rendezvous of the warriors who marched and fought under the banners of the House of Fitch according to British Museum records.

Rev. James Fitch had six children by his first wife, Abigail, all born at Saybrook, Connecticut. Abigail died September 9, 1659 and was buried at Saybrook.

His children by Abigail were: Major Gen. James Fitch II, Abigail, Elizabeth, Hannah, Samuel, and Dorothy. Miss Perkins in her writings states, "the Fitch daughters were handsome and very attractive."

C1. Major General James Fitch II, eldest son of Rev. James Fitch was born August 2, 1649, and died November 16, 1727.

He was the founder of Canterbury, Connecticut and one of the founders of Yale University, having given 637 acres of land, the stained glass and nails. He is honoured by "The Fitch Gateway" in the Harkness Memorial Quadrangle, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. Both sides of the Gateway bear inscriptions telling of his services as founder of Yale College, now Yale University.

By his first wife, Elizabeth Mason, he had five children.

By his second wife, Mrs. Alice (Bradford) Adams, he had eight.

C2. Abigail Fitch, born August 1650: married Captain John Mason. They had two children.

C3. Elizabeth Fitch, born January 1652; married Rev. Edward Taylor of Westfield, Massachusetts, September 5, 1674. She died in 1689, having had eight children, most of whom died young.

C4. Hannah Fitch, born September 1653; married Thomas Meeks of New Haven, Connecticut, June 30, 1679, and settled on the east side of the Shetucket River within the limits of ancient Norwich, Connecticut. They had nine children.

C5. Samuel Fitch, born April 5, 1655; married Mary Brewster, November 28, 1678. They resided in Norwich, Connecticut and Preston, Massachusetts. They had seven sons and three daughters.

C6. Dorothy Fitch, born April 1658; married Nathaniel Bissell, of Windsor, Connecticut. She died June 28, 1691. There were two children.

Rev. James Fitch left Saybrook, Connecticut after his first wife's death in 1659. He settled in Norwalk, Connecticut, a widower with six children. In October of 1664, Rev. James was married to Priscilla Mason, daughter of Major John Mason. Rev. James and Priscilla had eight children.

C7. Captain Daniel Fitch, born August 16, 1665. He settled at New London (now known as Monticville), Connecticut. He married Mary Sherwood in March of 1698. Capt. Daniel died June 3, 1711. Their children were:

C7a. Captain Adonijah, born April 1700.

C7b. Captain James, born October 1702. (Private records show 1703.)

C7c. Lemuel, born January 1704.

C7d. Mary, born September 1707.

C7e. Daniel, born . . . ; married November 16, 1732 to Sarah Sherwood.

C8. Captain John, born January 1667. He was a gentleman of wealth, high social position, and extensive influence. He married Elizabeth Waterman, July 10, 1695. Captain John died May 24, 1743, and his wife died June 25, 1751. Their children were:

C8a. Elizabeth, born June 1, 1696.

C8b. Miriam, born October 17, 1699.

C8c. Priscilla, born February 5, 1702.

C8d. Captain John II, born March 18, 1705; married his second cousin, Alice Fitch, granddaughter of Major General James Fitch. Captain John II died February 19, 1760.

C9. Captain Jeremiah Fitch, born about 1671. He died at Coventry, Connecticut, May 22, 1736. He married Ruth Gifford of Norwich, Connecticut.

Captain Jeremiah was commissioned Captain of the second company of militia in the town of Lebanon in October 1708. In 1723 he was chosen

Selectman of Coventry. He and Ruth were members of the Windham church before Coventry was formed. Jeremiah was a noted land surveyor.

Much of interest on his life is recorded in *History of the Fitch Family*, Vol. II.

Children of Jeremiah and Ruth were:

C9a,b. Lucy and Ruth (twins), born April 18, 1699.

C9c. Hannah, born January 18, 1701.

C9d. Captain Abner, born July 8, 1703.

C9e. Gideon, ----

C9f. Elisha, ----

C9g. Lieut. Jeremiah, born 1707.

C9h. James, born in Coventry.

C9i. Joseph, born in Coventry.

C9j. Stephen, born 1712 (Coventry Vital Records).

C10. Reverend Mr. Jabez Fitch was born April 1672.

He graduated at Harvard College in 1694. After his father became disabled he occupied his father's pulpit for a time. After a year he declined the invitation to remain as pastor of the Norwich church and was subsequently elected a Tutor and Fellow of Harvard College.

In 1703 he was ordained at Ipswich, Massachusetts, as a colleague of the Rev. John Rogers. Later he moved to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where he was installed about 1725. He died there November 22, 1746.

Jabez Fitch was married at Ipswich July 26, 1704, to Elizabeth Appleton of Ipswich. Their children, as entered in the Vital Records of Ipswich, Massachusetts, are as follows:

C10a. Elizabeth, born August 6, 1705.

C10b. John, born August 18, 1709; died October 26, 1736.

C10c. James, born June 19, 1712; died January 2, 1722.

C10d. Margaret, born November 15, 1715.

C10e. Anne, born July 19, 1718.

C10f. James, born October 3, 1721.

C10g. Mary, born March 24, 1724.

C11. Anne Fitch, the eleventh child of Rev. James, was born in October 1675. She married Lieut. Joseph Bradford. They lived first at Norwich, Connecticut, later at Lebanon, Connecticut where she died October 17, 1715.

C12. Captain Nathaniel Fitch, born October 1679. He was an early settler of Lebanon, Connecticut. He owned and operated a grist and fulling mill.

His first wife was Ann Abel whom he married December 10, 1701. She died July 3, 1727. She was the daughter of Joshua Abel of Norwich, Connecticut.

Captain Nathaniel married his second wife, Mindwell Tisdale, on September 17, 1727. She was from Lebanon, Connecticut.

There were twelve children from the first marriage and three from the second. The children of Nathaniel and Ann were:

C12a. Anne, born November 1702.

C12b. Joshua, born February 13, 1704. (His family line is recorded later in this chapter.)

C12c. Latham, born March 29, 1705.

C12d. Nehemiah, born February 10, 1708.

C12e. James, born October 15, 1709.

C12f. John, born January 7, 1712.

C12g. Nathaniel, born May 4, 1715.

C12h. Mehitabel, born February 3, 1717.

C12i. Elizabeth, born May 26, 1718.

C12j. Rachel, born October 1720.

C12k. Abel, born November 22, 1722.

C12l. Caleb, born June 17, 1725.

Children by the second marriage were:

C12m. Jabez, born October 14, 1730.

C12n. Ezekiel, born March 11, 1732.

C12o. Isaac, born May 10, 1734. He was executor of his mother's and father's will.

C13. Joseph Fitch, the thirteenth child of Rev. James, was born November 1681 at Lebanon, Connecticut. He settled at Stonington, Connecticut, but after his second marriage moved to Lebanon where he spent the rest of his life. According to available records, it seems he was a man of considerable wealth.

Joseph Fitch's first wife was Sarah Mason, daughter of Major Samuel Mason. His second wife was Ann Whiting, eldest daughter of Rev. Samuel Whiting of Windham, Connecticut, whom he married December 29, 1721.

Joseph died May 9, 1741 and his wife Anne died at Windham, September 18, 1778.

Joseph and Sarah Fitch's children were:

C13a. Judith, born in Stonington, Connecticut.

C13b. Sarah, born January 24, 1704 in Stonington, Connecticut.

C13c. Mason, born September 11, 1708. He graduated at Yale College in 1729. He died March 10, 1734.

C13d. Captain Joseph, born February 14, 1711. He married Zervia Hyde of Lebanon, Connecticut. Children of Joseph Fitch by Ann Whiting were:

C13e. Samuel, born January 16, 1724 at Lebanon. He graduated from Yale College in 1742. He was a lawyer in Boston; Attorney General of Massachusetts; and also a Royalist during the Revolution. He died in London, England in 1784. He married Elizabeth Lloyd.

C13f. Colonel Eleazer, born August 29, 1726. He was also a graduate of Yale. He settled at Windham, Connecticut; was High Sheriff and a Royalist in the Revolution. (A further account of Colonel Eleazer Fitch is given in Chapter XIV, "Distinguished Members of the Fitch Family.")

C13g. Captain Azel, born November 7, 1728.

C13h. Lieut. Ichabod, born May 17, 1734.

C13i. Ann, born July 12, 1737.

C13i. Thomas, born June 11, 1739; died January 2, 1747.

C14. Deacon Eleazer Fitch was born May 14, 1683. He married his first cousin, Martha Brown. He died about 1747 leaving his property to his wife as they had no children.

JOSHUA FITCH

Joshua Fitch, grandson of Rev. James Fitch, and eldest son of Captain Nathaniel Fitch and his first wife Ann (Abel) Fitch, was born, as previously noted, February 13, 1704 at Lebanon, Connecticut. He died at Salisbury, Connecticut, June 7, 1790. His wife's name was Mary There were at least two sons, Joshua, Jr. and Jonathan, according to a record of wills of Joshua Fitch, Tunis Surdam, and Jane Surdam.

There are filed in the Connecticut State Library wills of the following:

Captain Nathaniel Fitch, Lebanon, Connecticut, 1759, no. 1385.

Joshua Fitch, Salisbury, Connecticut, 1790, no. 1262. The bond for Joshua was signed by Joshua

Fitch (son) and Tunis Surdam.

Tunis Surdam, Salisbury, Connecticut, 1808, no. 3173.

Jane Surdam, wife of Tunis and mother of Sarah (or Sally), Salisbury, Connecticut, 1789, no. 3162. This will was signed (bond) by Tunis Surdam and Joshua Fitch, Jr.

Jonathan Fitch, a son of Joshua Fitch and his wife, Mary -----, was born at Lebanon, Connecticut on December 1, 1730. He was, as will be noted from previous records, the great-grandson of Rev. James Fitch and Priscilla (Mason) Fitch.

Jonathan married Ann Calkin at Bozrah, Connecticut on October 19, 1753. Jonathan and Ann had ten children.

C12bi. Ephraim, born at Norwich, Connecticut, August 7, 1754.

ii. Jonathan, born at Salisbury, Connecticut, August 19, 1756.

iii. Zoraster, born at Salisbury, Connecticut, February 23, 1759. He served in Captain John Stafford's Company, and in Colonel Warren's Regiment from March 27, 1780 to October 30, 1781. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary War Soldiers," page 166 and 475. (See Chapter XV of this book.)

iv. James, born at Salisbury, Connecticut, July 8, 1762. He is probably Private James Fitch, No. 6C-A6B1C, who enlisted in Connecticut in Colonel Henan Swift's 7th Conn. Regiment. He served from June 9 to December 13, 1780. He re-enlisted April 5, 1781 and served to July 30, 1782. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men." Vol. I, page 227 and 569.

It may here be of interest to note, not less than 168 Fitches served in the Revolution. A list of these men is included in chapter XV, giving the name and rank. This list was compiled by Raymond L. Fitch of Los Angeles, California.

- v. Abigail, fifth child of Jonathan and Ann (Calkin) Fitch, was born at Salisbury, Connecticut, October 13, 1764.
- vi. Nathaniel, was born at Salisbury, Connecticut, February 15, 1767.
- vii. David, was born at Salisbury, Connecticut, May 8, 1769. A further account is found in the following chapter under the heading, "Descendants of David Fitch and His Wife Sally (Surdam) Fitch."
- viii. Bette, born July 25, 1771, at Salisbury, Connecticut.
- ix. Joshua, born May 23, 1777, at Salisbury, Connecticut. He was the great grandfather of Judge Horace W. Fitch of Anandaigua, New York, of whom mention is made in chapter XIV.
- x. Ezra, born at Salisbury, Connecticut, December 12, 1773.

CHAPTER IV

DESCENDANTS OF DAVID FITCH AND HIS WIFE, SALLY (SURDAM) FITCH

David Fitch, the seventh child of Jonathan Fitch and Ann (Calkin) Fitch was born May 8, 1769 at Salisbury, Connecticut, and died at Richford, Tioga County, New York on February 24, 1846.

Ancestral line is as follows: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Captain Nathaniel; III. Joshua; IV. Jonathan; V. David.

David Fitch married Sally Surdam on November 1, 1796 at Salisbury, Connecticut.

Sally Surdam was born in Salisbury, Connecticut, January 14, 1779. She was the daughter of Tunis and Jane Surdam. She died January 18, 1866.

David and Sally Fitch moved first to Chenango Country, New York, and from there to Marathon in Cortland County. Here, for two or three years, their family and Sally's brother's (Daniel Surdam) family lived in the same house.

About 1820, the Fitches moved to Richford in Tioga County, New York where they purchased land as county records show.

The following is from a letter received by the writer from the Tioga County Clerk's Office, 16 Court St., Owego, New York, dated June 11, 1965.

1. Joshua Whitney & Julia Whitney, to David Fitch 68 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, lot 504, situated in Richford, N.Y. recorded February 17, 1832.
2. John A. Collin & Elizabeth Collin, to David Fitch, 50 acres, lot 498, situated in Richford, recorded June 8, 1835.
3. Robert Hyde & Polly Hyde, to David Fitch 68 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, lot 504, situated in Richford, recorded June 9, 1836.
4. Miles Searles & Sarah Searles, to David Fitch, northwest quarter, lot 530, situated in Richford, recorded September 8, 1841.

The Fitches "settled in the southern part of what was later known as Richford Hill, about two miles from Richford village, a mile south from the place where Daniel Surdam located a year or two later, and about a mile and a half north of the home of Peter Perry.

"Mr. Fitch was a successful farmer and took good care of his family." (Quote from the *Genealogy of the Surdam Family*, written by Charles Edward Surdam and published in 1909 by The Jerseyman Press, Pierson & Surdam, Morristown, New Jersey, p.160.)

David and Sally had eight children.

A. Lucetta, born 1798 and died 1800.

B. Oramel, born 1800. He remained on the home farm with his parents during their life time. He never married. He was given title to the northwest quarter, lot 530 excepting 25 acres, situated in Richmond, recorded January 14, 1865.

After the death of his younger brother, John, and his wife, the family was broken up and their holdings sold. Oramel spent about two years with another brother in Iowa after which he returned to Richford, New York where he died April 14, 1892.

From the *Ithaca Journal*, (New York): "Death has again entered our neighborhood and removed from our midst one of the oldest and most respected citizens, Mr. Oramel Fitch, aged ninety-one years. Death came quite suddenly from an organic disease of the heart. The funeral services were held at his home last Saturday, conducted by the Rev. A. F. Brown. Interment in the Richford cemetery."

C. Amanda, born June 1804. She died November 27, 1877. An account of her marriage and descendants appears later.

D. Jane, born 1806. Unfortunately we have to report that she eloped with her sister's husband, Charles Wheaton. Her nephew, Mason Wheaton, reported,

“They went to Chautaugua County and we don’t know very much about them. They had children, but we don’t know how many or when they were born. They lived and died in Jamestown, New York.”

E. Adoniram, born April 1, 1808. He died in Jones County, Iowa, March 20, 1892. A further account appears in chapter V.

F. John S., born February 28, 1811. His death took place February 12, 1861. Further records are covered in Chapter VI.

G. Sarah Eliza, born September 3, 1814. She was married to Calvin Clark on January 2, 1845. A further account appears later.

H. Lydia Cornelia, born March 23, 1817. She married George P. Clark, April 29, 1841. An account of her life and immediate descendants appears later.

DESCENDANTS OF AMANDA FITCH, DAUGHTER OF DAVID AND SALLY FITCH 1783764

Amanda Fitch, as previously recorded, was born June 1804. She married Charles Wheaton in 1821. They had four children. Amanda’s husband deserted her when the children were quite young but she managed to keep the family together with some assistance from her father and brothers. In turn, her children gave her a good home in her old age.

The children of:

AMANDA FITCH, b. June 1804; d. Nov. 27, 1877.

CHARLES P. WHEATON, b.; d.

Married 1821.

A. Ruth Wheaton, b. Oct. 12, 1823; m. Jan. 17, 1843; d. Apr. 18, 1883.

B. Mason S. Wheaton, b. July 31, 1826; m. July 5, 1851; d. Sept. 17, 1903.

C. George Wheaton, b. ...; d. early childhood.

D. Louise Wheaton, b. ...; d. early childhood.

Grandchildren:

A. Ruth Wheaton, b. Oct. 12, 1823; d. Apr. 18, 1883.
David L. Clark, b. Jan. 14, 1820; d. Jan. 27, 1861.
Married January 17, 1843.

1. Frances Louise Clark, b. Nov. 7, 1843; m. Mar. 7, 1860; d.
2. Alice Josephine Clark, b. Nov. 11, 1845; m. Mar. 25, 1868; d.
3. Mary Adelaide Clark, b. Feb. 4, 1847; d. Sept. 27, 1860.
4. Delia Ruth Clark, b. July 18, 1850; m. Mar. 7, 1867; d. 1918.
5. Emma Amanda Clark, b. Oct. 18, 1853; d. Oct. 2, 1860.
6. John Josiah Clark, b. Feb. 7, 1857; m. Aug. 19, 1874; d.
7. Charles Rand Clark, b. Sept. 1859; d. Oct. 4, 1860.

B. Mason S. Wheaton, b. July 31, 1826; d. Sept. 17, 1903. Harriet Elliot, b. Mar. 7, 1833; d. Sept. 13, 1861.
Married July 5, 1851.

1. Mary J. Wheaton, b. Apr. 28, 1852; m. May 24, 1868; d.
2. George F. Wheaton, b. Nov. 15, 1857; d.

Mason S. Wheaton his second wife, Mrs. S. Wilcox, August 11, 1867. She was born October 12, 1831, and died March 31, 1898. Their children were:

3. Harriet Wheaton, b. Feb. 8, 1869; m. Aug. 10, 1887; d.
4. Henry Wheaton, b. Feb. 8, 1869; m. June 27,
5. Anna R. Wheaton, b. Mar. 15, 1878; d. ...
1900; d.

Great-Grandchildren:

A1. Frances Louise Clark, b. Nov. 7, 1843; d.
Henry Robinson, b. May 29, 1841; d. May 1, 1908.
Married March 7, 1860.

a. Emma Adelaide Robinson, b. Nov. 17, 1863; d. Aug. 15, 1869.

A2. Alice Josephine Clark, b. Nov. 11, 1845; d.
Albert Benjamin, b. Aug. 27, 1843; d.
Married March 25, 1868.

a. Charles M. Benjamin, b. May 20, 1872; m. Aug. 9, 1897; d.

b. Albert C. Benjamin, b. June 3, 1875; m. Mar. 25, 1900; d.

c. Fitch C. Benjamin, b. May 31, 1877; m. Mar. 23, 1904; d.

d. Arthur C. Benjamin, b. Apr. 7, 1883; d.

e. Carrie E. Benjamin, b. June 1, 1886; d.

A4. Delia Ruth Clark married Orson D. Fitch March 7, 1867. The descendants of Delia Ruth Clark will be listed under Orson David in chapter VIII.

A6. John Josiah Clark, b. Feb. 7, 1857; d.
Emma S. Hawn, b. Sept. 3, 1867; d.
Married August 19, 1884.

a. Clara Delia Clark, b. Aug. 17, 1885; m. Oct. 17, 1903; d.

b. John Duvere Clark, b. July 15, 1900.

B1. Marv J. Wheaton, b. Apr. 28, 1852; d.
Gardner Fellows, b. June 15, 1849; d. Sept. 15, 1904.
Married May 24, 1868.

a. Frank E. Fellows, b. 1869; m. Sept. 16, 1896; d.

B3. Harriet Wheaton, b. Feb. 8, 1869; d.
Wayland B. Ayers, b. May 22, 1863; d.
Married August 19, 1887.

a. Gertrude Ayers, b. June 18, 1888; m. Dec. 9, 1900; d.

b. Leslie Ayers, b. Aug. 8, 1900; d. Oct. 12, 1900.

B4. Henry Wheaton, b. Feb. 8, 1869; d.
Mary E. Shelp, b. May 14, 1875; d.
Married June 27, 1900.

- a. Henry Holden Wheaton, b. May 22, 1903.
- b. James S. Wheaton, b. June 19, 1904.

Great-Great-Grandchildren:

A2a. Charles M. Benjamin, b. May 20, 1872; d.

Mary Wheeler, b. Nov. 1, 1873; d.
Married August 2, 1897.

- i. Alice Margaret Benjamin, b. Aug. 31, 1898.
- ii. Albert Rial Benjamin, b. April 19, 1900.
- iii. Frances May Benjamin, b. April 23, 1905;
d. Nov. 19, 1905.
- iv. Robert Irwin Benjamin, b. Sept. 23, 1906.
- v. Herbert Heath Benjamin, b. Dec. 29, 1908.

A2b. Albert C. Benjamin, b. May 31, 1877; d.
Bethel Barber, b. May 24, 1882; d.
Married March 25, 1900.

- i. Evan Benjamin, b. Mar. 28, 1901.
- ii. Russel Benjamin, b. June 3, 1905.
- iii. Arlo Benjamin, b. Sept. 10, 1908.

A2c. Fitch C. Benjamin, b. May 31, 1877; d.
Mabel Spikes, b. July 3, 1883; d.
Married March 23, 1904.

A6a. Clara Delia Clark, b. Aug. 17, 1885; d.
Lee Hobart, b. Mar. 11, 1883; d.
Married October 17, 1903.

B1a. Frank E. Fellows, b. 1869; d.
Clara Topping, b. Jan. 25, 1874; d.
Married March 10, 1907.

- i. Glen D. Fellows, b. Aug. 24, 1898.

B3a. Gertrude Ayers, b. June 18, 1888; d.
John W. Watson, b. Apr. 12, 1887; d.
Married March 10, 1907.

i. Clifford Watson, b. Dec. 9, 1907.

**DESCENDANTS OF
SARAH ELIZA FITCH, DAUGHTER OF DAVID AND
SALLY FITCH**

Sarah Eliza Fitch was born September 3, 1814. She married Calvin Clark January 2, 1845. Calvin Clark was the son of Calvin Clark Sr. and Judith (Hathaway) Clark of Caroline Center, New York. The children of:

SARAH ELIZA FITCH, b. Sept. 3, 1814; d. Sept. 25, 1892.
CALVIN CLARK, b. Oct. 21, 1814; d. Sept. 15, 1864.
Married January 2, 1845.

A. Anna Sophia Clark, b. Jan. 9, 1846; m. Feb. 1, 1872; d.

B. Robert Charles Clark, b. June 14, 1848; m. June 7, 1881; d.

C. Sabra Electa Clark, b. May 3, 1853; d.

Grandchildren:

A. Anna Sophia Clark, b. Jan. 9, 1846; d.
Frances Snow b. June 26, 1848; d.
Married February 1, 1872.

1. Lamont Clark Snow, b. Dec. 10, 1873; m. Jan. 29, 1907; d.

2. Fannie Louise Snow, b. Jan. 8, 1878; d.

3. Arthur Taft Snow, b. June 12, 1882; m. Dec. 29, 1908; d.

B. Robert C. Clark, b. June 14, 1848; d.
Jessie D. Snow, b. Sept. 9, 1851; d.
Married June 7, 1881.

Great Grandchildren:

1. Lamont Clark Snow, b. Dec. 10, 1873; d.
Frances Whittaker, b. Aug. 24, 1875; d.
Married January 29, 1907.

a. Edith Elizabeth Snow, b. Oct. 4, 1907.

3. Arthur Taft Snow, b. June 12, 1882; d.
Edith Whittaker, b. July 18, 1878; d.
Married December 29, 1908.

DESCENDANTS OF LYDIA CORNELIA FITCH, DAUGHTER OF DAVID AND SALLY FITCH

Lvdia Cornelia Fitch was the youngest of David and Sally Fitch's children. She was born March 22, 1817. She married George P. Clark April 29, 1841.

They lived about one mile west of Richford, New York, until 1857, then moved to Elmira, New York, where Mr. Clark died March 20, 1868. For many years Lvdia Cornelia lived at Ovid, Michigan with her son, David, after which she returned east and spent her last years with her daughter, Mrs. John Davis. She was the last of her generation, and died May 10, 1906.

Quote from the *Ithaca Journal*, N.Y. May 15, 1906:

"At two o'clock P.M. Saturday, May 12, at the residence of Mrs. John Davis of Caroline Center, occurred the funeral of her mother, Mrs. Cornelia Clark, widow of George Clark. The Rev. F. E. Lott of the M. E. Church officiated. Interment was made in the cemetery at Slaterville. Mrs. Clark was born the 22 of March 1817. One who knew her will say — She was an earnest, devoted Christian woman, faithful and concentrated in all her work, and truly merited the 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.' She leaves to mourn her loss two daughters and three sons: Mrs. John Davis, Caroline Center; Mrs. Frank Russell, Detroit, Michigan; George Clark, Ovid, Michigan; Judson Clark, Port Huron, Michigan; and David Clark, Caroline Center."

The children of:

LYDIA CORNELIA FITCH, b. Mar. 23, 1817; d. May 10, 1906.

GEORGE P. CLARK, b. Feb. 1818; d. Mar. 20, 1868.

Married April 29, 1841.

A. David F. Clark, b. May 9, 1842; d.

B. Eliza C. Clark, b. Nov. 4, 1844; m. May 1860; d. July 26, 1865.

C. Emily Albertina, b. Feb. 16, 1848; m. Oct. 11, 1869; d.

D. Frank C. Clark, b. May 3, 1850; d.

E. George P. Clark, b. May 6, 1853; m. Jan. 17, 1882; d.

F. Charles Judson, b. Aug. 1, 1862; m. 1881; d.

Grandchildren:

B. Eliza C. Clark, b. Nov. 4, 1844; d. July 26, 1865.

George Dunbar, b. Sept. 1837; d.

Married May 1860.

1. Fred Fitch Dunbar, b. Sept. 1, 1864; m. May 8, 1887; d.

C. Emily Albertina Clark, b. Feb. 16, 1848; d.

John Davis, b. Jan. 14, 1838; d.

Married October 11, 1869.

1. Mary L. Davis, b. Aug. 3, 1878; m. Jan. 26, 1898; d.

D. Frank C. Clark, b. May 3, 1850; d.

Warren Russell, b.; d.

Married

1. Clark A. Russell, b. Sept. 8, 1870; m. Mar. 25, 1899; d.

2. Sarah Albertina Russell, b. Apr. 1, 1873; m. June 10, 1879; d.

E. George P. Clark, b. May 6, 1853; d.

Lily Dehoren, b. Aug. 12, 1843; d.

Married January 17, 1882.

1. Fred D. Clark, b. Mar. 12, 1883; d.

2. Frank R. Clark, b. Feb. 3, 1885; d.

F. Charles Judson Clark, b. Aug. 1, 1862; d.

Caroline Mack, b.; d.

Married 1891.

Great-Grandchildren:

B1. Fred Fitch Dunbar, b. Sept. 21, 1864; d.

Florence M. Cole, b. Feb. 12, 1868; d.

Married May 8, 1887.

a. Ernest Leverne Dunbar, b. Apr. 25, 1889.

b. Alice Alene Dunbar, b. July 11, 1891.

c. Nina Belle Dunbar, b. Jan. 22, 1895.

d. Mary Antoinette Dunbar, b. Aug. 17, 1896.

C1. Mary L. Davis, b. Aug. 13, 1878; d.

John H. Brink, b. Sept. 8, 1876; d.

Married Jan. 26, 1898.

a. Paul Brink, b. Dec. 3, 1898.

b. Ruth Albertina Brink, b. Oct. 14, 1901.

c. Ethel C. Brink, b. Oct. 7, 1905.

d. Elizabeth Brink, b. May 23, 1908.

D1. Clark A. Russell, b. Sept. 8, 1870; d.

Maria Hoffman, b. June 27,; d.

Married Mar. 25, 1899.

a. Harold Ernest Russell, b. Apr. 7, 1900.

b. Gladys Alberine Russell, b. Jan. 31, 1903.

D2. Sarah Albertina Russell, b. Apr. 1, 1873; d.

Louis W. Lindeman, b.; d.

Married June 10, 1897.

a. Louis W. Lindeman, b. July 14, 1900.

E1. Fred D. Clark, b. Mar. 12, 1883; d.

Wife....

Married....

a. Warren George Clark, b. July 15, 1907.

CHAPTER V

DESCENDANTS OF ADONIRAM FITCH, SON OF DAVID AND SALLY (SURDAM) FITCH

Adoniram Fitch, the fifth child of David and Sally Fitch, was born April 1, 1808, probably at Marathon, Cortland County, New York.

By Tioga County records he held the following lands from his father's estate:

“David Fitch & wife to Adoniram Fitch 68½ acres, lot no. 504, situated in Richford, recorded January 9, 1865.”

Line of descent: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Captain Nathaniel; III. Joshua; IV. Jonathan; V. David; VI. Adoniram.

Adoniram Fitch married Diantha Colby at Richford, New York, on November 10, 1848. The *Genealogy of the Surdam Family* reports: “They had a good farm adjoining the Fitch homestead.”

The children of:

ADONIRAM FITCH, b. Apr. 1, 1808; d. March 20, 1892, at Olin, Iowa.

DIANTHA COLBY, b. - ; d. Dec. 24, 1881.
Married November 10, 1848.

A. Daniel W. Fitch, b. Oct. 18, 1850; d. Mar. 12, 1879.

B. Jane E. Fitch, b. July 4, 1852; d.

C. Oramel Fitch, b. 1855; d.

D. Ida. M. Fitch, b. Aug. 13, 1856; d.

E. John Surdam Fitch, b. Mar. 5, 1859; d. Aug. 15, 1940. The above children were born at Richford, New York.

F. Nellie Fitch, b. May 30, 1864; d. - .

G. Edwin Fitch, b. June 1, 1869; d.

In 1863 the Adoniram Fitch family moved to Olin, Jones County, Iowa. It was here that Nellie and Edwin were born.

Grandchildren:

B. Jane E. Fitch, b. July 4, 1852; d.
Gustavis Streeter, b. 1847; d.
Married

They made their home at Central City, Nebraska, where they had a good farm and remained for many years and raised their family.

1. Orson Streeter, b. 1869; d.
2. Emory O. Streeter, b. 1872; d.
3. Ida May Streeter, b. 1874; d.
4. Lewis Streeter, b. 1878; d. 1881.

D. Ida M. Fitch, b. Aug. 13, 1856; d.
Addison W. Hallock, b. May 14, 1853; d.
Married August 3, 1879.

They had a farm at Clarks, Nebraska where they made their home and raised their family.

1. Milo E. Hallock, b. Apr. 12, 1880; d. Oct. 5, 1881.
2. Delta Maude Hallock, b. Aug. 1, 1882; d.
3. Harry N. Hallock, b. June 19, 1884; d.
4. Earl R. Hallock, b. July 23, 1887; d.

E. John Surdam Fitch, descendants found in chapter VI.

F. Nellie E. Fitch, b. May 30, 1864; d. Apr. 10, 1950, at Portland, Oregon.

William Henry Smith, b. Oct. 26, 1854, in Richey County, West Virginia.

Married....

1. Edith Grace Smith, b. at Spring View, Nebraska, Oct. 4, 1884; d. Aug. 5, 1885.
2. Delta Maude Smith, b. at Willow Springs, Garfield County, Nebraska, July 1, 1886; d. Oct. 8, 1956, at Kalamath Falls, Oregon.
3. Armeda Smith, b. at Spring View, Kayapoha County, Nebraska, Feb. 1, 1889.

4. Clarence Eugene Smith; b. at Spring View, Nebraska, July 18, 1891; d. Mar. 15, 1948, at Arlington, Oregon.

He spent some time in the Centerville district (20 miles west of Red Deer) of Alberta with his uncle, John Surdam Fitch, and cousins during the summer of 1922.

5. Doris Hazel Smith, b. at Butte, Boyd County, Nebraska, Nov. 3, 1895; d. Sept. 8, 1905 at Council, Idaho.

6. Carl Chancey Smith, b. May 2, 1887, at Butte, Boyd County, Nebraska; d.

7. Earl Harold Smith, b. at Council, Adams County, Idaho, d.

8. Holley G. Smith, b. at Council, Adams County, Idaho, Feb. 1, 1906.

There is some indication that the family lived near Council, Idaho, but actually they lived in Washington County, Idaho.

G. Edwin E. Fitch, b. June 1, 1869; d. in the early 1930's.

Kathleen Wise, b.; d.

Married in 1890.

1. Ernest Fitch, b. 1891; d. Dec. 27, 1937.

Ernest was, for a short time, in the Centerville district of Alberta around 1913. He lived for a time at Simpson, Montana, later going to Lead, South Dakota where he died in 1937. He was reported to have married and left a daughter, Lavada, who is married and in Montana.

2. James, b. 1893; d. in early childhood.

Edwin E. Fitch married a second time, a widow, Mary Wynne. There were four step-children:

3. Jennie

4. John

5. May

6. Bennett

The oldest daughter, Jennie, married a nephew of Edwin's. (See chapter XII.)

Edwin and his wife, Mary, came to the Centerville district, west of Red Deer, Alberta about 1906, where they had a farm located on the north-west quarter of section 24, township 37, range 2. They remained here until March 1914, then moved to Simpson, Montana. Here they acquired land and opened a general store and post office. They founded and named the little village Simpson. After Edwin died in the early 1930's, Mary continued to run the store for many years, until her death at an advanced age.

Great-Grandchildren:

B1. Orson D. Streeter, b. 1869; d.
Etta Shaw, b.; d.
Married

B2. Emory O. Streeter, b. 1872; d.
Elizabeth Roberson, b.; d.
Married

Emory made a trip to Alberta about 1910 or 1911 where he bought an interest in a farm which was later taken over by a cousin, Earl Hallock.

B3. Ida May Streeter, b. 1874; d.
W. A. Newton, b.; d.
Married

D2. Delta M. Hallock, b. Aug. 1. 1882; d.
Ford A. Shenk, b. Jan. 26. 1880; d.
Married September 9, 1899.

- a. Zola H. Shenk, b. Apr. 26, 1900.
- b. George F. Shenk, b. Dec. 28, 1902.
- c. Claud Shenk, b. June 10, 1905.

D4. Earl R. Hallock, b. July 23, 1887; d.
Elizabeth..., b.; d.
Married

- a. Darwin Hallock, b. about 1912.

b. Maxine Hallock, b.....

c. Hector Hallock, b.....

Earl R. Hallock was born at Clarks, Nebraska, where he married. They moved to Alberta about 1911 where they remained for a time, partly farming and partly operating a blacksmith shop at Evarts.

F3. Armeda Smith, b. Feb. 1, 1889.

Marcus E. Krigbaum, b. - ; d. Feb. 2, 1950.

Married July 5, 1905, at Council, Idaho.

a. Claude F. Krigbaum, b. Sept. 28, 1906, at Council, Idaho.

b. William K. Krigbaum, b. Mar. 9, 1908 at Council, Idaho.

c. Kermit W. Krigbaum, b. Jan. 16, 1910, at Council, Idaho.

d. Blake W. Krigbaum, b. Oct. 2, 1915, at Halfway, Oregon.

On May 4, 1959, Armeda married Charles A. Hall in Humbolt County, Nevada. Her address at time of writing is: 440 E. Main, Weiser, Idaho, 83672.



CHAPTER VI

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SURDAM "JACK" FITCH, SON OF ADONIRAM FITCH

John Surdam Fitch, the fifth child of Adoniram and Diantha Fitch, was born at Richford, Tioga County, New York, March 5, 1859.

Line of descent is as follows: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Captain Nathaniel; III. Joshua; IV. Jonathan; V. David; VI. Adoniram; VII. John Surdam.

When at about the age of four years the parents and family moved to Olin, Iowa where John Surdam Fitch grew up. He worked as a locomotive engineer on the Grand Central Railroad for a number of years.

January 14, 1885, he married Ida May Wise at Grand Island, Nebraska. After marriage they settled on a homestead at Butte, Boyd County, Nebraska where they remained until Mrs. Fitch's death on November 2, 1895.

The children of:

JOHN SURDAM FITCH, b. Mar. 5, 1859; d. Aug. 15, 1940.

IDA MAY WISE, b. May 5, 1867, at Bethany, Missouri; d. Nov. 2, 1895.

A. Frankie Fitch, b. Oct. 27, 1885; d. Apr. 1900 at Butte, Nebraska.

B. Jessie Fitch, b. 1890; d. 1893.

C. Jennie L. Fitch, b. May 4, 1894 at Butte, Nebraska.

Jennie L. Fitch married Joe Ferguson on October 12, 1911 at Innisfail, Alberta. They had three children.

C1. Glen Keith Ferguson, b. Dec. 14, 1911; d. 1968. Glen married May Scott on December 14, 1933 at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. They had four children.

a. Marie Ferguson, b. Jan. 3, 1936.

b. Glen Michael Ferguson, b. Apr. 9, 1940. He was drowned in the Thompson River, Alberta, on Aug. 18, 1962, at the age of twenty-two.

c. David Lee Ferguson, b. Aug. 18, 1942.

d. Richard Ferguson, b. Apr. 17, 1945.

Glen K. Ferguson later married Emma Retzler on February 28, 1963. They took up residence at Peace River, Alberta.

C2. John Willson Ferguson, b. Dec. 10, 1915; d. Jan. 1916.

C3. Kathleen Lind "May" Ferguson, b. May 9, 1926.

May married Roy Leasure in Washington State. They had three children.

a. Lenora Lee Leasure, b. Aug. 13, 1949.

b. Randy R. Leasure, b. Jan. 30, 1952.

c. Stewart Leasure, b. Aug. 17, 1953 in Oregon.

After being widowed in 1895, Mr. Fitch left the homestead at Butte, Nebraska and seems to have been unsettled for a while, having spent some time in Kansas, and other points as well as back on the homestead.

In 1896 he married Ida Ellen Oliver who was born September 22, 1869, believed to have been at Chetek, Wisconsin. She died and was buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta, September 23, 1939.

In December of 1900, John Surdam Fitch made a trip into Alberta, Canada to spy out the land where he settled the following spring, along with Mike Quinn, an old acquaintance from North Dakota.

"Jack", as Mr. Fitch was known to one and all, often told of the mild weather that December of 1900. He said on the trip by buckboard and team from Calgary to Red Deer, he rode during the sunny afternoons in his shirt sleeves.

In 1901 "Jack" homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 26, in township 37, range 2, west of the fifth meridian. He also acquired other land.

When "Jack" arrived in Red Deer with two carloads of settler's effects, he found the traffic bridge over the river had been washed out by the spring flood. This presented a real problem as the railroad officials refused to allow the cars to be unloaded on the north side. This

lack of courtesy and co-operation on their part angered "Jack" to such an extent that he unloaded the cars and under cover of darkness, with the use of a land car, moved everything across the railroad bridge. The officials made quite a fuss but nothing further came of the incident.

Other members of the Fitch family followed during the next couple of years and settled in the surrounding area which became known as the Centerville district. A full account of these other members will be given in chapter VIII "Descendants of Orson David Fitch."

John Surdam "Jack" Fitch lived on the homestead farm in the Centerville district (some twenty miles west of Red Deer, Alberta) from 1901 until his death August 15, 1940.

"Jack" was quite prosperous during his early years in Alberta. He owned the first threshing machine, the first car, and the first electrified home in the district. He was a man who was interested in the progress of the community. He donated the land for the local school which was built by the homesteaders, each giving time and material. "Jack" was also chiefly responsible for the erection of a co operative telephone line which served the area south of Sylvan Lake, Alberta until October 21, 1970 when the Alberta Government Telephone Company took it over.

Before going further it may be well to explain that subsequent notations of births which are said to have been at Centerville, indeed took place in the homes where a midwife was in attendance. Some of these births were later registered at the Courthouse in Red Deer and some were not. Birth certificates have therefore been difficult to obtain in many cases. This was not only the case here in Alberta but also in the central states where members of the Fitch family settled more than one hundred years ago.

In 1896 John Surdam "Jack" Fitch married Ida Ellen Oliver who was born September 22, 1869 and died September 23, 1939. Five children were born to this union.

D. Aura May Fitch, b. Apr. 16, 1898 at Butte, Nebraska. She came as a small child to the Centerville district in Alberta, where she grew up and lived throughout her entire life. In 1915 Aura married Charles Alonzo Hazen who was born December 5, 1890. Aura and Charlie spent their married life at Centerville except for a short time at Caroline, Alberta. Their nine children were all born in the Centerville district. Aura died May 30, 1935 and Charlie died February 17, 1957.

1. Theodore John Hazen, b. Dec. 26, 1915. On October 2, 1941, Theodore married Dorothy Hilda Grean who was born Feb. 28, 1922. They had eight children.

- a. John Charles Hazen, b. July 24, 1942.
- b. Iva Winnifred Hazen, b. Dec. 10, 1943.
- c. Eric Lawrence Hazen, b. Sept. 7, 1948.
- d. Joseph Frank Hazen, b. Dec. 9, 1949.
- e. Theodore Clifford Hazen, b. Mar. 12, 1952.
- f. Vera M. Ellen Hazen, b. July 2, 1956.
- g. Dwight Norman Hazen, b. July 2, 1958.
- h. Eva Donna Hazen, b. Oct. 11, 1962.

2. Ellen Mae Hazen was born Aug. 13, 1917. On July 7, 1934 Ellen married Alvin Milton Parker who was born June 1, 1912. They had five sons.

- a. Milton Alvin Parker, b. Aug. 29, 1935.
- b. Lorne William Parker, b. May 4, 1941.
- c. Ralph Edward Parker, b. Aug. 23, 1943.
- d. Edwin Donald Parker b. Nov. 30, 1947.
- e. Gordon Wayne Parker, b. Jan. 27, 1958.

3. Dwight Ralph Hazen, born May 8, 1919. In 1946 he married Marion Eileen Lepine who was born August 11, 1927. Their children are as follows:

- a. Judith Aura Hazen, b. Aug. 5, 1946.
- b. Ralph Richard Hazen, b. Sept. 1, 1947.
- c. Robert Charles Hazen, b. Feb. 28, 1950.

- d. Elizabeth Ann Hazen, b. May 24, 1951.
 - e. Frank Comille Hazen, b. Dec. 27, 1955.
 - f. Laura Lee May Hazen, b. Dec. 8, 1961.
 - g. Betty Jane Coline Hazen, b. Sept. 17, 1964.
4. Frank Wayne Hazen, b. Nov. 13, 1926; d. May 10, 1941.
5. Gene Jasper Hazen, b. July 21, 1924. On October 14, 1950 Gene married Beryl Simone Mousseau who was born June 23, 1924. They had four children.
- a. Randol Jerome Hazen, b. Nov. 2, 1953.
 - b. Brent Sheldon Hazen, b. Oct 3, 1954.
 - c. Sheldon Wayne Hazen, b. Sept. 14, 1957.
 - d. Janice Marie Edith Hazen, b. Feb. 24, 1963.
6. Ida "Jessie" Hazen, b. Apr. 19, 1928. Jessie married Edward Emmerson Hoare who was born April 22, 1912.
- a. Marjorie Isabel Hoare, b. Aug. 19, 1945.
 - b. Ella May Hoare, b. Nov. 30, 1947.
 - c. Trudy Lee Hoare, b. Sept. 25, 1958.
7. Joan Hazen b. July 8, 1930. After her mother's death in 1935, Joan was adopted by her uncle, Budd Fitch, and is listed under his name.
8. Harold Floyd Hazen, b. May 17, 1932; d. Aug. 17, 1951.
9. Iona Lois Hazen, b. June 7, 1934. Iona married John Thomas Roper on May 27, 1952. John was born Dec. 7, 1923.
- a. Anne Roper, b. Apr. 11, 1953.
 - b. May Ellen Roper, b. Aug. 24, 1954.
 - c. Edith Jane Roper, b. Dec. 29, 1955.
 - d. Robert John Roper, b. May 25, 1957.
- E. Fay Viola Fitch, b. Nov. 9, 1899, at Butte, Nebraska and died at Vancouver, British Columbia, June 20, 1962. She took her public school education at Cen-

terville and secondary in Red Deer, Alberta. She taught school for a short period. Her husband, Carl Walter England, was born at Colorado Springs, Colorado, on May 9, 1897, and died September 8, 1959 at Vancouver, B.C. Fay and Carl were married December 14, 1918.

1. Viola Phyllis England, b. Oct. 4, 1921; d. Jan. 5, 1940.

2. Clifford Calvin England, b. Feb. 6, 1923. On May 12, 1949 he married Dorothy Helen Neal who was born Aug. 7, 1928, at Stonewall, Manitoba. They had two children.

- a. Nancy Ruth England, b. Oct. 3, 1952, at New Westminster, British Columbia.

- b. Niel Lane England, b. Sept. 17, 1955, at New Westminster, British Columbia.

3. Arline Lois England, b. Aug. 29, 1926. On December 19, she married Edward Myers who was born Dec. 24, 1919, at Cupar, Saskatchewan.

4. Edna Margaret England, b. June 3, 1929. On October 16, 1947, she was married in Vancouver, British Columbia, to Harold Percey Geddes who was born March 2, 1928, at Calgary, Alberta. Their five children were born at Vancouver, British Columbia.

- a. Wanda Jane Fay Geddes, b. Sept. 18, 1951.

- b. Gary Walter Geddes, b. Jan. 21, 1954.

- c. Harold Herbert Geddes, b. Feb. 28, 1957.

- d. Valerie Ann Geddes, b. Sept. 11, 1959.

- e. Rayma Lee Geddes, b. Mar. 12, 1961.

5. Stanley Walter England, b. Nov. 14, 1931. On May 27, 1953, Stanley was married in Vancouver, British Columbia to Beverly Jean Dunham who was born December 27, 1932, at Ladner, British Columbia.

- a. Carol Joan England, b. Mar. 3, 1954.

- b. Susan Diane England, b. Nov. 21 1956.

- c. Laurie Jean England. b. Apr. 25, 1958.
- d. Denise Arline England, b. Oct. 28, 1963.

All were born at Vancouver, British Columbia.

F. Cora Alberta Fitch, b. Sept. 26, 1901. Cora married James Connon on September 27, 1922 at Red Deer, Alberta.

1. James "McKinley" Connon, b. Sept. 24, 1925. On November 5, 1950, he married May Cromb who was born December 23, 1925.

- a. Shannon Molly Connon, b. Jan. 4, 1954.
- b. Timothy James Connon, b. Nov. 25, 1964.

2. John "Angus" Connon, b. Feb. 21, 1927. On November 17, 1950, Angus married Delores Halloway who was born Aug. 23, 1927. They had eleven children.

- a. Wendy Jean Connon, b. Sept. 30, 1951.
- b. Linda Louise Connon, b. Mar. 16, 1953.
- c. James Connon, b. Nov. 8, 1954.
- d. Glen Elden Connon, b. Mar. 8, 1957.
- e. Dina Lee Connon, b. Aug. 10, 1958.
- f. Sandra Anne Connon, b. Sept. 16, 1959.
- g. Chris Shelley Connon, b. Nov. 18, 1960.
- h. Leslie Connon, b. Oct. 23, 1961. }
- i. Lora Connon, b. Oct. 23 1961. } twins
- j. June Connon, b. June 7, 1962.
- k. Sharron Connon, b. May 14, 1963.

G. Budd Fitch was born April 21, 1903 and died November 5, 1954. On June 7, 1930, Budd married Laura Ardell who was born March 16, 1911 at Zealandin, Manitoba. They had one daughter by adoption and two of their own.

1. Joan Hazen Fitch, born July 8, 1930. Joan married Ronald Toppin in 1951. They have six children.

- a. Lorena Toppin, b. Apr. 19, 1952.
- b. Lawrence Budd Toppin, b. Nov. 19, 1953.
- c. Roy Fredrick Toppin, b. Sept. 9, 1957.
- d. Mina May Toppin, b. June 13, 1959.
- e. Betty Anne Toppin, b. Aug. 27, 1963.
- f. Bertha Lynn Toppin, b. Dec. 12, 1964.

2. Angeline Fitch, born Feb. 2, 1949. Angeline taught school at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, before completing her B.A. degree in 1971. She is now furthering her education at the University of Alberta in Calgary.

3. Catherine Fitch, born July 26, 1950. Cathy is a Registered Nurse.

H. Daniel Lorne Fitch, born August 23, 1904 in the Centerville district. He grew up and farmed in the district, although he did work as a steam engineer in various sawmills at times. Dan married Millia Halstein on August 11, 1943. Millia was born November 10, 1906.

1. Gordon Fitch, born Dec. 28, 1938. On August 2, 1963, Gordon married Margaret Bjornson. Gordon has his M.E.G.N. (Mental Efficiency Graduate Nurse) certificate and works in Red Deer, Alberta. His wife, Margaret, is a Registered Nurse. They have two children.

a. Melaine Leanne Fitch, b. Nov. 9, 1965.

b. Gregory James Fitch, b. May 26, 1968.

2. Lorne Fitch, born May 19, 1950.

I. Grace Belle Fitch, born Feb. 3, 1908 in the Centerville district and died in Calgary after a long illness on January 1, 1956. In 1927, Grace married Earl Ford at Calgary, Alberta. Earl was born January 5, 1896. They had two children born at Grand Prairie, Alberta.

1. Gwendolyn Ford, b. Jan. 30, 1928. She married Dan Shechan on May 7, 1949.

a. Flyn Earl Shechan, b. Sept. 1954 at Calgary, Alberta.

2. Gordon Ronald Ford, b. Aug. 21, 1932. He married Alda "Irene" Maletta on August 22, 1953. Irene was born August 6, 1930 at Blairmore, Alberta.

a. Charmaine Gayle Ford, b. Aug. 14, 1954, at Victoria, British Columbia.

b. Loren Dale Ford, b. March 10, 1956, at Victoria, British Columbia.

c. Jacqueline Dawn Ford, b. Sept. 1957, at Regina, Saskatchewan.

J. Diantha Fitch, b. May 8, 1914, at Red Deer, Alberta. In June, 1932, Diantha married Robert Butler at Red Deer, Alberta, after which they moved to Landis, Saskatchewan, and later to British Columbia. They had one son.

1. Robert Butler, b. 1933. He married and had two daughters.

Diantha was married a second time to James Creelman. They have lived at various places throughout the province of British Columbia.





CHAPTER VII

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN S. FITCH, SON OF DAVID AND SALLY (Surdam) FITCH

John S. Fitch, the sixth child of David Fitch and Sally (Surdam) Fitch, was born February 28, 1811 at Richford, Tioga County New York and died and was buried there February 12, 1861.

John S. Fitch must not be confused with his nephew, John Surdam "Jack" Fitch, son of Adoniram. (See Chapter VI.)

Line of descent is as follows: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Captain Nathaniel Fitch; III. Joshua Fitch; IV. Jonathan Fitch; V. David Fitch; VI. John S. Fitch.

John S. Fitch married Maria Moore on July 4, 1844. She was the daughter of Jesse Moore and Cynthia (Turnbull) Moore of Richford, New York. Maria was born October 28, 1820 and died March 23, 1860.

Tioga County records show that John S. Fitch held land as follows:

"David Fitch to John S. Fitch 64½ acres lot 504 & 498 situated in Richford. Recorded February 22, 1847."

"John R. Hubbard & wife to John S. Fitch 25 acres, lot 535. Recorded February 25, 1867."

The following is taken from the *Genealogy of the Surdam Family*, page 168.

"He was very highly regarded by all who knew him, and sometime after his death a memorial service was held in the church which he had been largely instrumental in building. The church was filled with sympathizing friends and the service was unusually solemn and impressive."

The children of:

JOHN S. FITCH, b. Feb. 28, 1811; d. Feb. 12, 1861.

MARIA MOORE, b. Oct. 28, 1820; d. Mar. 23, 1860.

Married July 4, 1844.

A. Elizabeth S. Fitch, b. Mar. 12, 1846; d. June 5, 1908, after a lingering illness which she endured with Christian fortitude.

B. Orson David Fitch, b. Sept. 8, 1847 at Richford, Tioga County, N.Y., and died at Sylvan Lake, Alberta Feb. 12, 1934. A complete list of Orson Fitch and his descendants will be contained in Chapter VIII.

C. Cynthia M. Fitch, b. Oct. 6, 1849; d. Feb. 4, 1935.

D. Ann E. Fitch, b. Oct. 28, 1851; d.....

E. Hubert John Fitch, b. Oct. 31, 1853; d. Dec. 16, 1936.

Hubert remained a bachelor. He came west with his brother, Orson, and homesteaded in Nebraska, moving to Alberta in the spring of 1902 where he remained with other members of the Fitch family until his death.

"Uncle Hubert", as he was known not only to the family but to many friends as well, was of a kindly nature, ever ready to help those less fortunate. He lived with his brother's family for the most part in Nebraska but after the marriage of his nephew, Earl, he made his home there for a time. However, in Alberta he lived alone chiefly. He was a man who had a wide circle of friends and was well respected by all who knew him.

F. Adele M. Fitch, b. July 29, 1856; d. Dec. 12, 1883.

A. Elizabeth S. Fitch, b. March 12, 1846; d. June 5, 1908.

Orrin P. Rich, b.; d..... From Caroline, New York. Married January 13, 1864.

1. Ransom J. Rich, b. Jan 7, 1865.
2. William P. Rich, b. Jan. 22, 1869.
3. Hubert O. Rich, b. Mar. 14, 1871.
4. Lewis G. Rich, b. April 6, 1873.
5. Anna M. Rich, b. June 15, 1875.
6. Albert O. Rich, b. April 14, 1877.
7. Kittie M. Rich, b. Mar. 13, 1879.

C. Cynthia M. Fitch, b. Oct. 6, 1849; d. Feb. 4, 1935.
Byron Wattles, b. Feb. 15, 1847; d. Dec. 21, 1905.
Married February 26, 1870.

1. Harry Lathrop Wattles, b.....
2. Carlton Wattles, b....

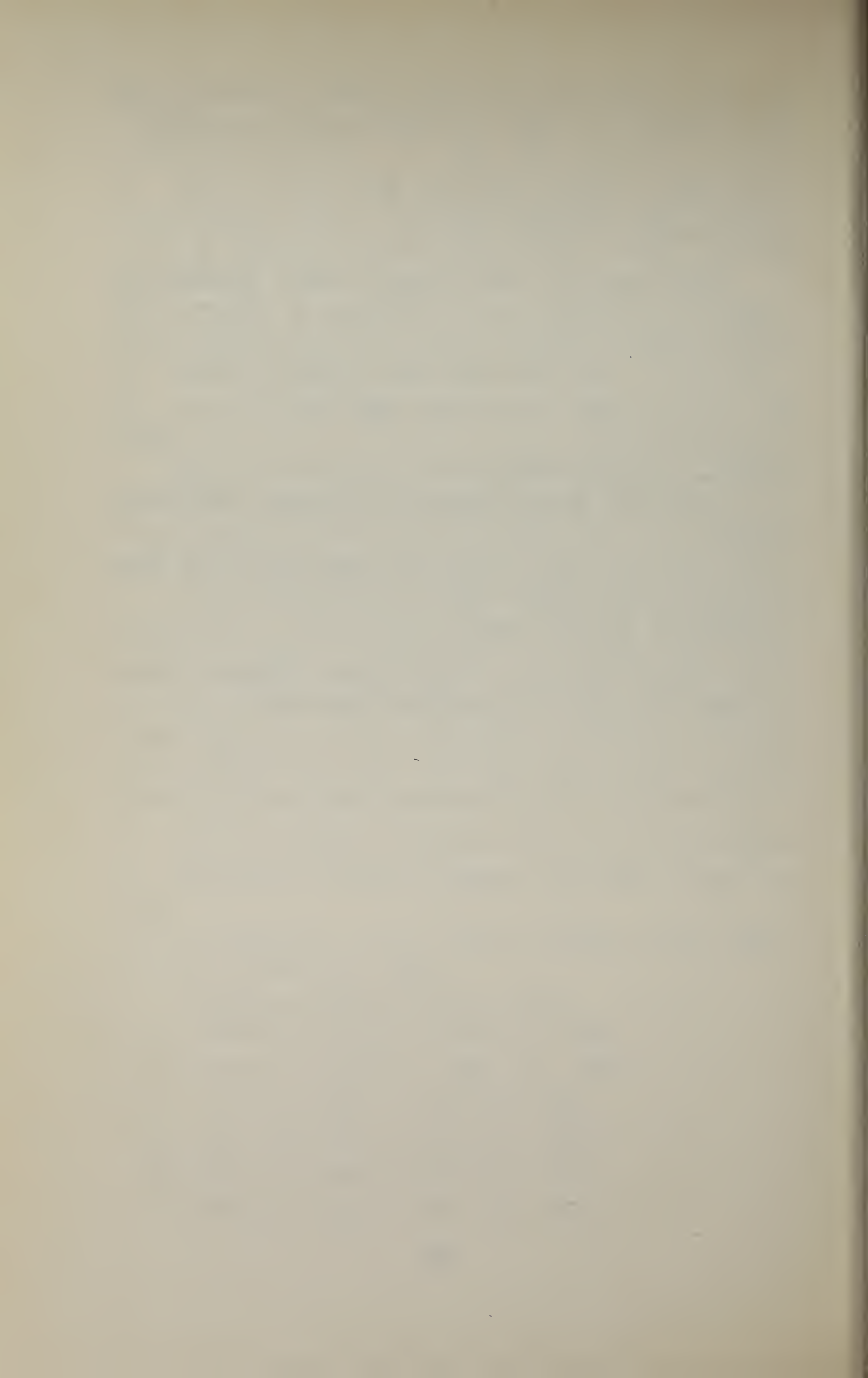
On August 17, 1911, Cynthia Fitch Wattles was married a second time to William K. Boyce. They made a trip to Alberta to visit her two brothers Orson and Hubert Fitch. William Boyce died in 1918.

D. Ann E. Fitch, b. Oct. 28, 1851; d....
Smith Wilcox, b...; d....
Married May 24, 1868.

They had three children all of whom died in infancy.

F. Adele M. Fitch, b. July 29, 1856; d. Dec. 13, 1883.
Charles H. Buck, b...; d....
Married September 1879.

1. Edna Buck, b.... Last known address: "Graystone" Bronxwood Park, New York City.



CHAPTER VIII

DESCENDANTS OF ORSON DAVID FITCH, SON OF JOHN S. FITCH AND MARIA (Moore) FITCH

Orson David (O.D.) Fitch, second child of John S. Fitch and Maria Moore Fitch, was born at Richford, Tioga County, New York, on September 8, 1847. He died February 12, 1934 and was buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta (Orson David Fitch is the grandfather of the writer.)

Orson David Fitch's line of descent from Rev. James Fitch is as follows: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Captain Nathaniel Fitch; III. Joshua Fitch; IV. Jonathan Fitch; V. David Fitch; VI. John S. Fitch; VII. Orson David Fitch.

Orson David Fitch grew up in the Richford area where he was a popular young man. He received some college education at Cornell College at Ithaca, New York.

He joined the Union Army during the Civil War but because of his age never saw active service.

On March 7, 1867, he married his mother's cousin, Delia Ruth Clark. She was born at Caroline Center, New York on July 18, 1850 and died March 13, 1918 while on a visit to the old home. Burial was in the Caroline Grove Cemetery, Brooktondale, New York.

Before going into the record of the family descendants, it will be of interest to record a brief outline of the life of the late Orson David Fitch.

First let us note that records in hand from the Tioga County Clerks Office at Oswego, N.Y., gives a list of lands held by, and transfers of, to, and from the above Mr. Fitch. (Letter received by the writer June 11, 1965.)

"Orson David Fitch and Elizabeth S. Rich to Mason S. Wheaton, southwest quarter of lot 535, situated in Richford. Recorded November 12, 1868."

"Orson D. Fitch, Delia R. Fitch and Elizabeth S. (Fitch) Rich to Charles H. Moore, 68¼ acres, lot 504;

68¼ acres, lot 505; 50 acres, lot 498, situated in Richford, recorded May 19, 1869."

It is evident Orson and Delia lived in the Richford district for about two years after their marriage. Their first child, a daughter, Alice Amanda, was born there December 23, 1867.

In the spring of 1869, he disposed of the last of their holdings in the Tioga County and, with the characteristic pioneer spirit of his ancestors, left for the west with his little family and young brother Hubert John Fitch. Most of a year seems to have been spent at Olin in Jones County, Iowa. An uncle, Adoniram Fitch, was located at Olin. Orson and Delia's second child, a son, Henry Albert, was born at Olin, January 12, 1870.

Early in 1870, the Orson David Fitch family and Hubert John Fitch left Olin with a prairie schooner and followed the wagon train of settlers westward. They crossed the Missouri River ferry at Council Bluffs, Iowa and kept to the old Oregon Trail for more than one hundred miles, finally homesteading at Central City, Nebraska near the Platte River. At that time this was wild Indian country and though I recall Grandmother telling of a number of scares by Indians on occasions, they were evidently in no real danger.

In 1879 the two brothers, Orson David and Hubert John, sold their farm holdings at Central City and opened a hardware and farm implement business in Fullerton, Nebraska. This business at first proved a profitable venture but because of large credit accounts and two years of drought the business failed after a period of four years. During the next twelve years the family continued to live in Fullerton while Mr. Fitch was connected with the International Harvester Company. This work took him over much of the north central states.

It is of interest to note that an entry in the "County Official", a publication of the state of Nebraska, O.D. Fitch is mentioned as being a member of the Faculty of the Nebraska Wesleyan University which was opened at Fullerton, October 13, 1881. Mr. Fitch was vocal

teacher of the boys' class and according to our best information he received much praise for what was achieved.

The following is copied from the "County Official" which the writer received from Donald M. Leininger, County Judge, Nance County, Nebraska. Letter was dated March 28, 1966.

"Nebraska Wesleyan University was organized in Osceola in 1879 and in 1881 was moved to Fullerton. Randall Fuller donated ten acres of land for a location. It was a beautiful site overlooking Fullerton and the surrounding Loup and Cedar Valleys.

The building was erected and school was opened October 13, 1881. The faculty consisted of J.J. Fleharty, president; Miss Lillian White; George W. Crozier; George B. Hoit; W.J. Pyle; Miss Josie Newman; O.D. Fitch; Miss Flora Smith, and Miss Delia Merkley.

The University was later moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, where it is still in operation. The university building, however, still stands in Fullerton as of March 1966."

In 1891, Orson David Fitch and family with the brother, Hubert J. Fitch, left Fullerton and again took up farm life. During the years from 1891 to 1903, they farmed in Nebraska. It must be said during those years they were tenant farmers so considerable moving was unavoidable. Relatives of the Fitch family were settled in Nance and Polk Counties, namely: the Clarks, Benjamins, Streeters and Hallocks.

Hubert John Fitch left Nebraska in the spring of 1902 and came to Alberta where his cousin, John Surdam "Jack" Fitch, had settled in 1901. His report of the land being favorable, encouraged one of O.D. Fitch's sons, Clarence H., to come to Alberta in November of 1902 where he and Hubert filed on homesteads.

In the spring of 1903, O.D. Fitch and his wife and other sons and families left Nebraska and shipped carloads of settlers' effects to Alberta. Here they settled on homesteads in what was almost immediately organized into the Centerville School District. This was about twenty miles west of Red Deer.

In a letter to his relatives in New York, Mr. Fitch (or as he became known in Alberta, Mr. O.D.) said, "We have 960 acres of land here all in one body and can do as much work as we want to."

Location of the various homesteads is as follows:

O.D. Fitch, S.E. quarter, section 2, township 38, range 2, W 5.

Hubert J., S.W. quarter, section 2, township 38, range 2, W. 5.

Clarence H., S.W. quarter, section 36, township 37, range 1, W. 5.

Paul B., N.E. quarter, section 2, township 38, range 2, W. 5.

Earl B., N.E. quarter, section 34, township 37, range 2, W. 5.

Paul B. sold his homestead to his brother Henry A. and purchased the N.W. quarter of section 35, township 37, range 2, W. 5. The younger son, Lewis J. some years later when he reached the age of eighteen homesteaded land in the Leslieville district.

Needless to say, the first years were very hard on the settlers. The little money they came with soon went for the bare necessities. There were no roads, no markets, and crops and vegetables were often badly frozen. Only those of strong heart and Christian fortitude were able to endure those first ten years. However, hard work and perseverance won out to such an extent that after ten years, Frank Whitehouse, the manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Red Deer, stated that the Fitches were on easy street. He nicknamed the Centerville district "Fitch Ridge."

O.D. Fitch left the Centerville district in November 1912 and spent a year in Red Deer, then moved with Mrs. Fitch to Leslieville where their youngest son, Lewis J., had taken a homestead. This was rather a hard experience for Mrs. Fitch, as her health was not good and it

presented the problem of being separated from most of the family as well as making new friends.

In 1917 Mr. and Mrs. Fitch made a trip back to the old home in New York. This was the first return trip in over forty years. Before leaving, Mrs. Fitch told the writer that she had a desire to see the old home before she died. Little did she realize how soon the end would come. While there she took another heart attack and passed to her rest.

Quoting from a letter Grandfather wrote to the family here he said, "Her face shone like an angel's." And so at the close of life she was in perfect peace knowing that she would awaken at the last trump to meet her Lord and Saviour whom she had loved and served faithfully for many years. She awaits in that lonely grave in Caroline Grove Cemetery. "Happy are the dead who die in the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:13, N.E.B. May God grant that we who remain will determine to so live that each of us can greet her on that great resurrection morning. This was her most cherished hope and the theme of her prayer.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Fitch returned to Alberta where he spent the remaining sixteen years of his life. He passed away at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. (Delia Pauline Fitch) J.B. Bystrom, on February 12, 1934 and was buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

His was a long and eventful life. Surely, in the eyes of all who knew him, none could say other than, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

The children of:

ORSON DAVID FITCH, b. Sept 8, 1847; d. Feb. 12, 1934.

DELIA RUTH CLARK, b. July 18, 1850; d. Mar. 13, 1918. Married March 7, 1867.

A. Alice Amanda Fitch, b. Dec. 23, 1867; d. Nov. 1873. She was buried at Central City, Nebraska.

B. Albert Henry Fitch, b. at Olin, Iowa, Jan. 12, 1870; d. Apr. 8, 1954 and was buried in the Fullerton Cemetery, Nebraska.

C. Earl Burdette Fitch, b. July 19, 1875 at Central City, Neb., d. Jan. 3, 1950 and buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

D. Paul Benjamin Fitch, b. Nov. 3, 1877 at Central City, Neb.; d. Apr. 18, 1931 and buried in the Forest Lawn Cemetery, Omaha, Neb.

E. Robert Guy Fitch, b. Mar. 30, 1880 in Fullerton, Neb.; d. Nov. 5, 1884 and buried in the family plot at Central City, Neb.

F. Clarence Hubert Fitch, b. Feb. 2, 1883. Still living in Red Deer, Alberta at present date, August 1971.

G. Orson David Fitch, b. Nov. 22, 1887 at Fullerton, Neb.; d. Feb. 27, 1888 and buried in the family plot at Central City, Neb.

H. Lewis John Fitch, b. Sept. 6, 1892 in the Fullerton area. He is still living at the date of writing, August 1970.

The five sons of Orson David and Delia Fitch who survived and married will be listed with their descendants in the five following chapters.

CHAPTER IX

DESCENDANTS OF ALBERT HENRY FITCH, SON OF ORSON DAVID AND DELIA RUTH (Clark) FITCH

Albert Henry Fitch was the oldest son of Orson David and Delia Ruth (Clark) Fitch. For line of descent refer to Chapter VIII.

Albert Henry Fitch was born at Olin, Jones County, Iowa, January 12, 1870. He died April 8, 1954 and was buried in the Fullerton cemetery at Fullerton, Nebraska.

Henry was a jeweller by trade and engaged in this business during his entire lifetime. His health was never the best because of a leg injury in boyhood. Late in life the leg was amputated.

Henry was an accomplished musician having been a band leader in every town where he operated a business. While located in Denver, Colorado, he was connected with the world famous Sousa Band. It is of interest to note that he was asked to accompany the band on a world tour but being unable to care for his family financially while absent he was forced to decline.

Henry migrated to Alberta with his father and brothers in 1903. He did not homestead but purchased land from his brother Paul. This land he kept for several years, finally trading it for a business property in Nebraska.

Henry remained in Alberta until the autumn of 1907. He operated a business first at Wetaskiwin, Alberta and later at High River, Alberta. In 1907, after disposing of his Alberta property, Henry returned to Nebraska. He operated business in various small towns until his death.

The children of:

ALBERT HENRY FITCH, b. Jan. 12, 1870; d. Apr. 8, 1954.

MABELLE LOUISE MILES, b. . . . ; d. . . .

Married July 24, 1895.

A. Orson Leonard Fitch, b. May 18, 1896; d. Dec. 23, 1959.

B. Alice Myra Fitch, b. July 28, 1898; d. Apr. 8, 1899.

C. Richard Miles Fitch, b. Apr. 3, 1900; d. Feb. 8, 1950.

Orson Leonard Fitch, eldest son of Albert Henry and Mabelle Fitch, was born May 18, 1896 and died at Lincoln, Nebraska, December 23, 1959. Leonard lived for a time in Alberta with his parents. While in High River, Alberta, he was taken sick with typhoid fever and after being discharged from the hospital, was sent to spend the summer on his grandparents farm at Centerville, Alberta.

Leonard and his wife, Viola had four sons. Leonard was a man of good business ability and did well by his family. His sons each received a college education and are well established. Leonard enlisted in the war Sept. 1, 1918 and was stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma Air Force Base, 1193230, 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, 164 Brigade. He was discharged January 31, 1919 at Camp Funston, Kansas.

After the death of her husband, Viola Fitch, continued to live in Lincoln, Nebraska. Her present address is 1902 South 27 Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68502.

A. Orson Leonard Fitch, b. May 18, 1896; d. Dec. 23, 1959.

Viola Josephine Moses, b. Sept. 6, 1895 at Otoe, Iowa. Married September 27, 1917 at Belgrade, Nebraska.

A1. Marion Henry Fitch, b. Mar 26, 1919 at Genoa, Nebraska.

Marion was connected with the United States Army Air Corps from March 20, 1942, to November 26, 1945, retiring as a First Lt. Bombardier. At present Marion is practicing optometry at Kearney, Nebraska, (Address: M. H. Fitch, O.D., 2515 - 3rd Ave., Kearney, Nebraska.

Marion graduated from the Southern College of Optometry at Memphis, Tennessee, *cum laude*, June 1947. Marion is a Member of the American Legion

40 & 8, Elks AF & AM, Knights Templar, and Tehama Templar Shrine of North America, and also Elder of First Presbyterian Church.

Marion Henry Fitch, b. Mar. 26, 1919.

Ruth Eileen Wilson, b....

Married May 4, 1941.

Ala. Richard Dennis Fitch, b. Nov. 5, 1942.

In a letter from Marion of April 1966, he said Richard was in Omaha attending Medical College and his wife, Lois, was teaching in the Omaha Public Schools. Richard had received his B.A. degree from the University of Nebraska and Lois graduated from Wesleyan University in Lincoln in June of 1965. At the present time (1971), Dennis is a doctor at O'Neill, Nebraska.

Richard Dennis Fitch, b. Nov. 5, 1942.

Lois Larson, of Kearney, Nebraska, b....

Married November 28, 1964.

They have one daughter adopted when she was 15 days old.

Alai. Stephanie Lynn Fitch, b. July 23, 1969.

Alb. Randall Wayne Fitch, b. June 11, 1944 at Omaha.

He is District Court Reporter for the 15th Judicial District and has lived at O'Neill for the past three years. He married Linda LuRae Warren September 11, 1965, at Loveland, Colorado. They have two children.

Albi. Melissa Michele Fitch, b. Jan. 11, 1969.

Albii. Richard Warren Fitch, b. Jan. 23, 1971.

A2. Richard "Dick" Russell Fitch, b. June 5, 1923 at Genoa Nebraska.

Barbara Josephine Bates, b. Jan. 21, 1920.

Married June 10, 1943.

A2a. Beverly Ann Fitch, b. Sept. 13, 1947, at Chicago, Ill.

A2b. Russell Miles Fitch, b. Feb. 25, 1955, at Chicago.

A2c. Brian Lewis Fitch, b. May 20, 1958, at Chicago.

A3. (Twin) Kenneth Leonard Fitch, b. Mar. 8, 1929.

At time of writing his address was 801 Bakewell, Normal, Illinois, 61716. Kenneth received his B.S. degree at the University of Nebraska in 1951; M.A. at the University of Kansas in 1952; and Ph. D. from the University of Michigan in 1955. At present he is Associate Professor of Biology at Illinois State University, a position he has held since 1963, except for a one-year break in 1968 and 1969.

Before connecting with the Illinois State University, he was Assistant Professor of Anatomy at the University of Missouri College of Medicine from 1956 to 1959. From 1959 to 1963 he was Assistant Professor of Anatomy at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine.

In August of 1968, Professor Fitch accepted a lectureship through the Fulbright Commission at Aegean University in Ismir, Turkey, where he spent a year.

After this he returned to his position at the University of Illinois. (See the end of this chapter for a report which the writer received from Professor Fitch soon after the family was established in Turkey.)

On July 3, 1949 Kenneth Leonard Fitch was united in marriage to Jeanne Morrill Wolcott. Jeanne received her B.S. degree from the University of Nebraska in 1948 and her M.S. degree in 1951. Jeanne's father is an engineer with the Platte Valley Public Power and Irrigation District. Her maternal great-grandfather, Charles H. Morrill, figures prominently

in Nebraska history. The Natural History Museum, "Morrill Hall" is named for him in honour of his service as a regent of the university.

Kenneth Leonard Fitch, b. Mar. 8, 1929.

Jeanne Morrill Wolcott, b. Dec. 22, 1925.

Married July 3, 1949.

A3a. David Arthur Fitch, b. Feb. 13, 1951.

A3b. Roger Wolcott Fitch, b. Oct. 9, 1952.

A3c. Margaret Joan Fitch, b. June 21, 1955.

A4. (Twin) Keith Leonard Fitch, b. Mar. 8, 1929.

Keith graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1951 from Business Administration of Accountancy. At last report Keith was connected with the General Electric at Syracuse, N.Y. (Address of Feb. 1967 was: Keith L. Fitch, 1 Old Hill Farm Road, Westport, Conn., 06882.)

Keith Leonard Fitch, b. Mar. 8, 1929.

Marilyn Jean Harms, b. June 8, 1930.

Married June 20, 1951.

A4a. Pamela Sue Fitch, b. Dec. 20, 1952.

A4b. John Kenneth Fitch, b. Oct. 18, 1955.

A4c. Dorothy Jean Fitch, b. July 11 1960.

B. Richard Miles Fitch, b. Apr. 3, 1900; d. Feb. 8, 1950.

Ada Christy, b. ; d. July 6, 1952 in California.

Married July 2, 1922 at Omaha, Nebraska.

Richard lived his entire life in Nebraska, except for a short time in childhood when his parents were in Alberta. Richard and Ada left no descendants.

The following is a copy of a letter which the writer received from Professor Kenneth Fitch, written from Turkey in December of 1968.

"CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM TURKEY"

After having been sounded out by the Fulbright Commission about a Lectureship four years ago, Jeanne has been agitating to get away to the far shores. When an opportunity arose to go to Turkey we accepted. We put Turkey as first priority followed by Rumania and Yugoslavia, and apparently, so few persons are interested in coming to Turkey that I survived rather limited competition. At first they wished to send us to Erzerum, out in the hinterlands near the Russian-Iranian border, but after some foot-dragging on my part, we were offered the position at Ege (Aegean) University in Izmir.

We left Illinois August 9, and after traveling through Western Europe (from Munich to Istanbul by train), we arrived in Istanbul in August 29. The Orient Express is nothing to rave about -- it is slow, dirty, and with no sleepers or diners, at least that we could manage to find. Stopovers in Zurich, Munich, Zagreb, and Belgrade took up the slack of three weeks.

Istanbul was fabulous, as you would expect. All Fulbright grantees (about 20, and with dependents, we numbered about 50) were housed in the American Girls College north of Istanbul on a high hill overlooking the Bosphorous. We were there until Sept. 11, during which time they tried to teach us some Turkish and generally introduce us to Turkey. We visited the principal attractions including the Blue Mosque, the Topkapi Palace (for one hour, if you can imagine; we must go back), St. Sophia, the Princes' Islands in the Sea of Marmara (where the Sultans' sons were imprisoned off and on for several hundred years), and swam in the Black Sea.

We arrived in Izmir on Sept. 12. We located a nine room house on a busy market street which we rented for about \$70 per month. It has no central heating nor hot water, and after 2½ months we are having some misgivings about it. We are about two blocks from the sea, and within walking distance from everything of importance in the city proper. Roger and Maggie like the house,

since most of their friends (military dependents who attend the dependents high school) live nearby, and Jeanne likes the convenience of the shopping (a butcher next door, grocery stores of all descriptions within a block), plumbers, carpenters, electricians, mattress makers, etc., all with their little shops within a stone's throw. Most of the military (and the other Fulbright grantees here) live in modern apt. buildings, some overlooking the bay -- have central heating, quiet, and some protection from the string of peddlars and beggars that ply the streets. Jeanne has a maid whom we pay about \$35 per month. She cannot read or write even Turkish, and is not interested in learning any English, so Jeanne has quite a time. If Jeanne keeps her eye on her, she does a passable job of washing dishes, scrubbing floors, and doing the laundry, but we don't trust her with any cooking.

David managed to graduate from high school in three years, and so was ready for college this fall. He was accepted at the University of Illinois, but decided to come to Turkey with us, and is now attending Robert College in Istanbul. The college lies above a fortress which overlooks the Bosphorous in a quite spectacular location. It's a good school and he seems to like it. He is in Electrical Engineering as of now, but whether he will continue it back home we don't know. He seems to be doing satisfactorily in a tough course of calculus, physics, chemistry, history, and introduction to engineering. Most of the students are Turkish and several years older, but all instruction is in English.

I am in the Anatomy Dept. here (actually called the Morphology Institute). There are normally two professors and two doctors along with three or four assistants who have their M.D. degree or a graduate degree in biology. I have the title of professor-doctor, although there are no others in the college of my age at the professor level. Consequently, I am treated with much deference and many solicitations. The department has about six or seven employees of various sorts whose principal duties are to see about any little thing the professors might

want. They mail letters for me, prepare slides, do photography, bring tea, even helped us move things into our house. When I walk down the hall they all rise and bow, offer me their seats on the bus, and generally act as lack-els. Since I am not much fond of being conspicuous, it can sometimes be disconcerting.

Of the six state universities in Turkey, two give their instruction in English, and Ege isn't one of them. Only a few of the students know much English (probably a dozen in the class of 220 I teach), so my lectures have to be translated. This is done by two of the assistants (both M.D.'s) whose English is not so hot. Consequently, they sweat considerably over it. I prepare the lectures in advance, type them out, and then read them into a tape recorder from which the assistants study ahead of time. To get across as much as possible I put everything possible on the blackboard. With delay for translation, this means that I cover only about 40% of what I ordinarily would. I was given the assignment of the Uro genital system, embryology, gross anatomy, and histology. I think I could normally cover the material in 12 13 lectures, but I think I'll end up taking around 30. It seems rather wasteful, since the assistants could probably give the material themselves with less effort than they are making to translate for me. But everyone seems to be pleased that I am here. I am the first Fulbright grantee at the medical college, altho there were several at the Ag school in past years.

Since arriving in Izmir, we made two trips: one in a rented car to Ephesus and the other to Ankara by bus. In both trips we were struck by the desolate nature of the countryside, rocky, barren, and arid-looking, in spite of the fact that there seems to be a fair amount of rain. I finally concluded that a major factor is the ubiquitous flocks of sheep whose migrations seem to cover every inch of the land. They nip off anything that grows. In the few areas protected from them, such as the campus here and the vineyards, the landscape looks much more

natural. It makes one wonder why erosion has not been much more severe.

The trip to Ankara was our first and last bus trip. The Turks drive like maniacs, and the bus drivers are no exception. They pass on hills and curves with a nonchalance that is explicable only on the basis of their fatalistic religion. They have told me that one has to be brave to drive, and since the Turks are noted for their **bravery**, they are the world's best drivers. (They also have the highest traffic fatality rate in the world.) In spite of this, we have decided to buy a car. We originally intended to get one on the way through Europe. We had wanted a Renault 16 in France, but when the time came around to order it, the French riots began. By that time it was too late to order anything else. Attempts to buy a used car in Munich were frustrating -- they want 80% of the price of a new car for one that is four or five years old and with 50,000 km on it. Finally, AAA in Paris arranged for us to pick up a VW beetle in Brussels. We are flying there this Friday (Dec. 6), and will drive it back. We would not have ordered such a small car earlier, but now all the kids claim that they are going home as soon as classes are out. For short trips from Izmir there is room enough for the four of us; and next summer there will be ample space for Jeanne and me on our touring.

Of frustrations we have plenty. The customs regulations are generally regarded as the most troublesome in the world. I have spent the better part of several days getting the necessary papers for bringing the car through customs, and the procedures will take at least a day in Istanbul, with the help of persons from the Fulbright Commission. Registering the car will take several more days of chasing around Izmir, and someone from the University will have to help me. Two of the four packages we mailed to ourselves have still not appeared, and I am sure they are lying in some post office or customs warehouse. Anything received after the first three months

here is liable to duty, usually equal to the price of the article -- so no Christmas presents this year from home.

The trip to Ephesus was rewarding. Its period of glory was from about 500 B.C. to about 500 A.D., and during that time was one of the world's great cities. The ruins are quite impressive, and much of the original city can be visualized from what remains. At the present entrance to the city is a large gymnasium which housed several hundred athletes, and a magnificent stadium, at least 390 yards in length. Well preserved in the gymnasium is the toilet room (quite separate from the baths) which must have been able to accommodate 50 people at once. The stools were stone slabs with U-shaped notches carved out which were suspended over a deep (about 6 feet) trough all around the room. In front of the slabs ran a shallow trough which drained periodically into the larger, deeper one. In the center was a shallow (8-10 inch) pool which might have been used for ablutions. Tile floors were still intact throughout much of the building, and not much excavation seems to have been done. Somehow the ancients are more real to me when viewing the remains of a toilet or brothel in comparison to a temple or theater.

Since the population was estimated to have been around 200,000, there are a great number of buildings, most of which were of marble. A wide, marble paved street runs from the old harbor to the center of the city where lies the theater, library, agora, and brothel. The street was lined with a double row of marble columns along each side which provided a sort of sheltered sidewalk -- the whole street is about 400 yards long. One stands there and visualizes Augustus Caesar making a triumphant march into the city (as he is known to have done). Most people come to Ephesus to visit the (purported) home of the Virgin Mary who is said to have died in Ephesus. David left the rest of us and followed a well-preserved road up the hill south of the city to where the principal residential areas were. He said there was much to be seen there including many well-preserved

underground passages. If we go again we'll bring along a flashlight and perhaps do some exploring. Although Ephesus is a major tourist attraction during the summer, we were almost alone there. We were followed by the usual urchins wanting to sell us ancient (?) coins. I bought one with a dirty picture on the back -- I'll be curious to find if it's authentic or not.

Ankara is really a major, modern city with the remains of the ancient city of Angora occupying the slopes of two hills along one side. The streets are wide, and the buildings large and impressive -- you would think you were in Western Europe. Ankara is the center of culture in Turkey, with an opera house, a symphony orchestra, and such other trimmings required for such distinction. We attended a performance of Aida (\$1.00 per ticket), and were delighted with it. The scenery was the best I have seen in any stage production of any kind. The opera and orchestra are supported by the State, and this helps.

The Turkish people are surprising in many ways. Over 98% are Moslem, but unlike other Moslem countries they are Westernized. This can be attributed solely to Ataturk who instituted many reforms during his period of one-man rule. He came out of World War I as the only authentic hero -- he defeated the British at Gallipoli, and captured the eastern provinces from the French, and never lost a battle. In 1922-23 he drove the Greeks from their occupation of Southwestern Anatolia, and managed to retrieve the lost areas of Thrace as well as Istanbul from the Allies. He proceeded to instill a great deal of nationalism (prior to this time, Turks were Ottomans rather than Turks). As a consequence, he was able to change the country by his own personal prestige: he abolished the fez and requiring the wearing of hats; he did away with the Arabic script and forbade its teaching except in religious schools; and replaced it with the Latin alphabet; he gave the women the right to vote and outlawed the veil; he abolished not only the Sultanate but also the caliphate and made the country religiously independent (Moslem is not a state religion); and he ed-

ucated the people in Western culture. In order to do this, many heads had to roll, but he had the army behind him. (This had an interesting result: the army became, after Ataturk's death in 1938, a liberal force in the country rather than a reactionary one as in most countries.) It was an amazing feat for one man, and he is revered far more than is George Washington in our country. During the Menderes regime (1910-1960) there was some backsliding -- the Moslem leaders have regained considerable power, but most of his reforms have persisted. Only in the villages do you see veils (and they do not cover the whole face), and there is no polygamy. But the people are caught between their Western aspirations and their Moslem reaction. The educated Turk is still a Moslem -- though usually a liberal one -- and he views with embarrassment the older generation which prays five times a day and spends many hours each day reading the Koran; yet the possibility of abandoning the religion is unthinkable to him; he is against the re-instatement of the Moslem religion as the state religion (the average voter would be in favor of it). The army is the principal threat which prevents the present government from considering such a move.

Unlike most Moslem countries, the women enjoy full rights; many are physicians and scientists, and almost a quarter of the medical class here is female. However, a college education often means spinsterhood for the woman. Men generally marry in their late twenties or early thirties, and almost invariably choose women who are at least 10 years younger than they are -- that is, women who have not attended college. A woman of 22 or 23 is pretty well over-the-hill as far as most men are concerned. The faculty men here of my age all have wives who seem to be in their mid-twenties, and have children not more than 8 or 9 years old; so they seem to prefer women of 16-18. Sex is not a particularly motivating factor in marriage for them -- all the larger villages and the cities have numerous government controlled brothels -- and it is accepted that this is the proper sexual

activity of unmarried males (married ones seem to be generally pretty well settled down).

The average Turk is very friendly, and will often go to considerable inconvenience to help you (the exception is young married females who are extremely suspicious of the young unmarried female Fulbright grantees; they will go to great lengths to keep their husbands from even speaking to these women although they may be quite cordial themselves). However, they feel free to fleece you in the markets if they can get by with it: you never contract any job (tailoring, carpentry, etc.) without getting a price ahead of time. This is particularly true of taxi drivers — you have to bargain with them every time you get in a cab. Once the price is settled, everything is rosy. It is understandable that they think that all Americans are rich, and they are a bit mystified to find that we live on the Turkish economy (without the PX) as they do. (About the only thing I really miss are American cigars — the Turkish cigars are terrible. I buy a few on the black market, and hope to get some in Europe when we go there next week.)

Our plans for next summer are indefinite. Jeanne and I would like to see more of Anatolia, as well as the Mediterranean and Black Sea coasts. We'll see things until our money runs out. When we return, we'll have movies and slides that will bore our friends for months.

Love to all.

Jeanne, Ken, David, Roger, and Maggie





CHAPTER X

DESCENDANTS OF EARL BURDETTE FITCH, SON OF ORSON AND DELIA RUTH (Clark) FITCH

Earl Burdette Fitch, the second son of Orson David and Delia Ruth (Clark) Fitch was born in Polk County, Nebraska, near Central City, on July 19, 1875. The family at that time was living in a sod house on the homestead. For line of descent from Rev. James Fitch, our first ancestor to settle in America, refer to chapter VIII.

When Earl was four years of age the family moved to Fullerton, Nebraska, where they remained until he was sixteen, after which they returned to farm life. Due to difficult years and the fact that they were tenant farmers, the family moved to southeastern Kansas about 1897, where they remained for two or three years before returning to Nance County, Nebraska.

Earl B. Fitch married Edith Marie Baugh of Pleasanton, Kansas, on January 18, 1898. They lived in Linn County, Kansas until the autumn of 1899. After their marriage they settled on John Baugh's (Mrs. Fitch's grandfather) farm. Edith M. (Baugh) Fitch was the daughter of G.M. Baugh. She was born July 26, 1875 in the Green Valley School District in Linn County, Kansas. She taught school a couple of years before her marriage to Earl B. Fitch.

Upon returning to Nebraska, Earl and Edith Fitch with Earl's Uncle Hubert J. Fitch, settled on a farm at Belgrade in Nance County where they continued until moving to Alberta in April of 1903.

The summer of 1903, the Fitches all lived in a log house together on the homestead of the grandfather, Orson David Fitch. In the late autumn, a log cabin was finished on the homestead of Hubert John Fitch, and he and the Earl Fitch family spent the first winter there. During this winter the men folk worked in the logging camp to get lumber for building the following summer.

In the summer of 1904 a frame house was built on the homestead of Earl Fitch, and his family moved in. This house still stands (1971) and is probably the only original building which has been in use until near the present time.

As has been previously stated, the first years were very difficult and at times the bare necessities of life were hard to come by. However, as has been said, misery likes company. Truly, the neighbors were all much in the same boat. There was a spirit of unity among one and all. A school building was constructed in 1903 and classes held. This was through the united effort of the local settlers.

It should be mentioned here that the Fitch family found life in central Alberta much different from that in Nebraska. They had grown up in a plains country and the bush presented a problem to those unused to it. Clearing and breaking was quite different then, to the present time. In those days the trees were cleared away with axe and grubhoe. The breaking was done with three horses on a fourteen inch walking plow. Winter feed was gathered from an open area along the east side of the Medicine River. The winters were long and often severe. The houses were rather poorly constructed, and the wood fires needed continual attention. Many true experiences could be related which the present generation would probably be tempted to doubt.

Central Alberta of today is reaping the harvest of what the pioneers sowed seventy years ago. Let us of today give honour and respect to the courage of the homesteader, regardless of his nationality or race.

Earl B. and Edith Fitch lived on the Alberta homestead the remaining years of their lives. They worked hard and raised their family. It must be said they were reasonably prosperous.

The children of:

EARL BURDETTE FITCH, b. July 19, 1875; d. Jan. 3, 1950. Buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

EDITH MARIE BAUGH b., July 26, 1875: d. Apr. 22, 1948. Buried at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Married January 18, 1898.

A. Orson George Fitch, b. Sept. 7, 1899 at Pleasanton, Kansas, in Linn County.

B. Delia Pauline Fitch, b. Nov. 12, 1900 at Belgrade, Nebraska, in Nance County.

C. Mina Elizabeth Fitch, b. Feb. 19, 1903 at Belgrade Nebraska, in Nance County.

D. Guy Robert Fitch, b. June 28, 1904 in the Centerville district west of Red Deer, Alberta.

E. Russell W. Fitch, b. June 24, 1911 in the Centerville district west of Red Deer, Alberta.

SUBSECTION A

ORSON GEORGE FITCH

Orson George Fitch, son of Earl Burdette and Edith Fitch, was as previously stated, born September 7, 1899 in Pleasanton, Kansas.

In 1903 he came to the Centerville district, west of Red Deer with his parents where he took his public schooling and grew up. He spent his entire life in the district as a farmer except for seasonal work with the local municipality between the years 1929 and 1942.

On November 5, 1930, George married Madge Anna Einarson, of the Burnt Lake district (west of Red Deer, Alberta). Madge was born in Isafirdi, Iceland on May 20, 1906. She came to Canada with her widowed mother in August of 1915 where she attended school and grew to womanhood. She spent some four years as a school teacher before her marriage.

George and Madge settled on the farm after their marriage and faced the ups and downs of rural life during the nineteen thirties. Hard times, farm debt and a growing family was enough to test the metal of husband and wife.

The writer, Orson George Fitch, does not pretend to ask for more credit than others of that generation. It must be said that by hard work, persistence and honesty, debts were finally paid, the children were educated, and a measure of comfort and security have been established.

George and Madge are still on the farm (SE quarter, section 1, township 38, range 2, W 5). They are semi-retired, living in the original house which has been somewhat remodelled. Their oldest son, Earl, now owns the land and he and his family live in the same yard. George and Madge have four children.

1. George Earl Fitch, b. Aug. 16, 1931 at Red Deer, Alberta.

Earl grew up in the Centerville district where he took his public school. He had one year at Canadian Union College, near Lacombe, Alberta.

Earl spent several years at Lamming Mills, near McBride, British Columbia, where he was head sawyer at the lumber mill. While at the mill he was able to save enough to buy a farm in the Centerville area so came out and settled here in 1958. He has prospered and is well established at the present time.

On August 19, 1951, Earl married Ruby Kilba of Lamming Mills. Ruby was born December 10, 1930. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Kilba. Her mother was the head cook at the lumber camp there for about 21 years.

Earl and Ruby have two children.

- 1a. Garth L. Fitch, b. Dec. 27, 1954, at Lamming Mills, British Columbia.

1b. Winnifred Elaine Fitch, b. Oct. 24, 1957, at Lamming Mills, British Columbia.

2. Edith Margaret Fitch, b. Oct. 25, 1932, at Red Deer, Alberta.

Edith took her elementary education at the local school at Centerville and her high school at Canadian Union College, near Lacombe, Alberta. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Walla Walla College, Washington, in 1965, and her B. Ed. degree from the University of Alberta (Edmonton) in 1968. She also attended Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts, and the University of Alberta (Calgary).

Presently, Edith is teaching at Canadian Union College. She is unmarried.

3. John David Victor Fitch, b. Dec. 7, 1933, at home in the Centerville district.

Victor attended Canadian Union College, and got his B.A. degree from Walla Walla College, Washington in 1957. He also took studies at the University of Alberta (both Edmonton and Calgary). He received his M. Ed. degree from Western Washington State College at Bellingham, Washington in 1968.

J.D. Victor Fitch served as Dean of Men at CUC (Canadian Union College) for five years, high school principal for two years, and has been a member of the faculty there for fourteen years. He has held the position of Academic Dean since 1968.

On August 25, 1958, Victor married Gem O'Brien. Gem was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on March 5, 1934. She is the daughter of the late John M. O'Brien and Anna F. McGill O'Brien. Gem has her degree in music (A.R.C.T. and solo performance) and teaches piano lessons privately. Victor and Gem have three children.

3a. Lana Dawn Fitch, b. July 22, 1959 at Vancouver, British Columbia.

3b. Shaun Leigh Fitch, b. Feb. 21, 1962 at Lacombe, Alberta.

3c. John David Victor Fitch, b. Aug. 2, 1967 at Lacombe, Alberta.

4. Alice Christine Fitch, b. Nov. 8, 1935 at home in the Centerville district.

Alice took her high school at Canadian Union College near Lacombe, Alberta. Alice has her A.R. C.T. degree in music and has had some experience in teaching piano.

On July 6, 1955 Alice was married to Clarence Wombold of Olds, Alberta. Clarence was born May 18, 1932. He is the son of late Jake Wombold and his wife, Martha (Rutschke) (Wombold) Krenzler.

Alice and Clarence reside on the farm in the Olds area. They have three sons.

4a. LeRoy David Wombold, b. Dec. 13, 1957 at Olds.

4b. Douglas James Wombold, b. Jan. 31, 1959 at Olds.

4c. Glenn Dale Wombold, b. Sept. 20, 1963 at Olds.

SUBSECTION B

DELIA PAULINE FITCH

Delia Pauline Fitch, daughter of Earl Burdette and Edith Fitch, was born November 12, 1900 at Belgrade in Nance County, Nebraska. She came with the family to the Centerville district in 1903. Her elementary schooling was taken at the local school; high school in Red Deer; and teacher training at Camrose, Alberta. Delia taught school for several years in the Red Deer area both before and after her marriage.

In 1928 Delia was united in marriage to John Bernard Bystrom. Bernard was born in the Evarts district (Alberta) November 28, 1904. Delia and Bernard are semi-retired at present and reside on the farm south-

west of Sylvan Lake, Alberta. They have four children, all born in the Red Deer district area.

1. Dorothy Bystrom, b. Jan. 2 1929.

Dorothy married Fred Rose of Calgary on May 12, 1951. Dorothy and Fred had one daughter.

1a. Barbara C. Rose, b. Sept. 27, 1953 in Calgary.

In April of 1959 Dorothy was married to Gedale Davis of Spokane. They are at present living in Spokane, Washington. Dorothy and Gedale have two daughters.

1b. Lisa C. Davis, b. Dec. 18, 1961 at Spokane, Washington.

1c. Carolyn Marie Davis, b. Sept. 8, 1964 at Spokane, Washington.

2. Burdett Bystrom b. May 31, 1934.

Burdett married Louise Raymond on December 27, 1957. Louise was born April 20, 1936. Burdett and Louise reside on a farm south of Caroline, Alberta. Louise teaches school, and Burdett farms. He has also acted as a hunter's guide throughout the foothills parks. Burdett and Louise have five children.

2a. Sheryl Bystrom, b. Aug. 30, 1959.

2b. Sharlene Bystrom, b. Nov. 17, 1960.

2c. Sharmaine Bystrom, b. July 23, 1962.

2d. Shawna Leola Bystrom, b. Feb. 26, 1966.

2e. James Burdett Bystrom, b. Mar. 19, 1971.

3. Burness Bystrom, b. March 5, 1936.

Burness married Ann Balfour of Sylvan Lake, Alberta on July 27, 1962. Ann was born at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, September 19, 1941. Burness and Ann live on a farm in the Happy Hill district. Their children are:

- 3a. Douglas Bernard Bystrom, b. July 24, 1963 at Red Deer, Alberta.
- 3b. John Craig Bystrom, b. Feb. 18, 1965 at Red Deer, Alberta.
- 3c. Katharyn Ann Bystrom, b. April 13, 1968.
- 3d. Karen Elizabeth Bystrom, b. Jan. 2, 1971.
4. Hubert Sevan Bystrom, b. Sept. 17, 1939.
- “Bert” took work with an oil company after completing his education and spent several years so employed. On June 28, 1962 Bert was united in marriage to Klara Johanson of Burnt Lake. Klara is the daughter of Axel Johanson. She was born May 26, 1943. Bert and Klara lived for some time in Edmonton, Alberta where Bert was with the oil company and Klara worked as a Lab. Technician.
- Presently they are located in the Centerville district where they have purchased the home farm. Their children are:
- 4a. Todd Andrew Bystrom, b. July 17, 1966 in Edmonton.
- 4b. Sandra Lynn Bystrom, b. Aug. 14, 1967.

SUBSECTION C

Mina Elizabeth Fitch

Mina Elizabeth Fitch, the third child of Earl Burdette and Edith M. Fitch, was born February 19, 1903 at Belgrade in Nance County, Nebraska.

Mina came with the family to the Centerville district when six weeks of age. She grew up and took her elementary schooling locally. Her grandmother, Delia Ruth Clark Fitch, gave her a good start in music and she continued music and high school in Red Deer. Mina has her A.R.C.T. degree in music.

At the age of eighteen, Mina married Albert E. Fearey of Calgary. "Bert" was born in Calgary Alberta on May 11, 1900. He was a veteran of World War 1. After his discharge from the services, he took work with the Alberta Government Telephone Company, continuing until his retirement in 1965. The last few years with the AGT, he served as General Manager of Construction for the entire Province of Alberta. Bert died October 26, 1971.

At the present time Mina is living at 152 Waterloo Drive, Calgary, Alberta. Their children and grandchildren are as follows:

1. Albert Earl Fearey, b. Feb. 26, 1922 at Calgary.

During boyhood, Albert spent the summer on his grandparents' (Earl and Edith Fitch) farm at Centerville and also attended the local school at least one term.

Albert served in the Canadian Navy for a time in World War II. At the present time he is with the Alberta Government Telephone Company in Edmonton, a position he has held since the war.

On June 25, 1948, Albert married Dorothy Gutteridge. Dorothy was born July 9, 1924. They have three children.

1a. Donna Cheryl Fearey, b. Apr. 2, 1949.

1b. Dorothy Janice Fearey, b. Aug. 5, 1951.

1c. Alan Edward (Teddy) Fearey, b. Mar. 2, 1955.

2. Elsie Audrey Fearey, b. Dec. 12, 1924 at Calgary.

Audrey grew up in Calgary and took her education there. It might be of interest to note that she spent the summer holiday season three years on her Uncle George's farm in Centerville where she seemed to take a keen interest in farm life.

In 1946 Audrey married John "Jack" Leonard Knoll of Edmonton, born June 23, 1920. They live

in Edmonton and their address is 10960 - 70 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta. Their children are listed as follows:

2a. Marsha Jane Knoll, b. Feb. 17, 1947.

Marsha has an honors Arts degree. On May 9, 1970 she married Murray Smart who has a degree in chemical engineering. They live in Edmonton.

2b. John Michael Knoll, b. Jan. 6, 1949.

2c. David Anthony Knoll, b. Dec. 23, 1949.

2d. Patricia Elizabeth Knoll, b. Jan. 8, 1951.

2e. Katharine Margaret Knoll, b. Oct. 29, 1954.

2f. Barbara Joan Knoll, b. July 12, 1957.

2g. Richard Allen Knoll, b. Feb. 11, 1963.

Jack and Audrey's children were all born in Edmonton.

3. Joyce Pauline Fearey, b. Dec. 29, 1926.

Joyce married Bernard Harold Gislason on April 29, 1949. On July 27, 1956 Joyce married David William McClement who was born June 16, 1930. Dave is a chartered accountant and is connected with the firm of Mannix Construction. They live in Calgary on Waterloo Drive. Joyce had no children with either marriage.

4. Murray P. Fearey, b. June 11, 1930 in Calgary.

In his boyhood, Murray spent several summers on his grandparents' farm in the Centerville district where he took considerable interest in rural life.

On September 8, 1956, Murray was united in marriage to Joan Kathleen Hudson in Calgary. Joan was born August 16, 1935. Murray is with the construction crew of the Alberta Government Telephone Company. His work is chiefly in the Red Deer district.

Murray and Joan own a farm in the Evergreen district where they live at the present time. They have two adopted children.

4a. Mark Stephen Fearey, b. Jan 17, 1961.

4b. Maureen Joyce Fearey, b. July 20, 1962.

5. Robert Gordon Fearey, b. Mar. 17, 1936.

Gordon married Wilma Gwen Taylor on April 1, 1957. They live in Portland, Oregon. Children born to this union are as follows:

5a. Robert Gordon Fearey, b. Jan. 29, 1958.

5b. Thomas William Fearey, b. Aug. 18, 1959.

5c. Donna Ann Fearey, b. Apr. 2, 1961.

5d. John Albert Fearey, b. May 11, 1965.

SUBSECTION D

Guy Robert Fitch

Guy Robert Fitch, the fourth child of Earl and Edith Fitch, was born in Alberta, June 28, 1904 in the Centerville district where he has spent his entire life.

On December 22, 1934, Guy married Jennie Riecki in Calgary. Jennie was born in the Kussamo district west of Sylvan Lake, Alberta, on August 3, 1908.

At the present time Guy and Jennie are living on the Earl B. Fitch homestead which they own along with the homestead of Guy's great uncle, Hubert J. Fitch. Guy and Jennie lived in the Earl B. Fitch original home built in 1904 until 1967 when they built a new home in the same yard. They occupy a basement suite, while their daughter and family live upstairs.

Guy and Jennie have only one child.

1. Rosetta Marie Fitch, b. February 14, 1938 at Red Deer, Alberta. Marie married George Johanson from the Burnt Lake district on August 29, 1957. George is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Johanson of Burnt Lake. He was born March 18, 1937. George received his B. Ed. degree in 1969. George teaches school

at Innisfail, Alberta and Marie teaches school at Sylvan Lake, Alberta. They have three children.

1a. Westley George Johanson, b. Mar. 28, 1958.

1b. Wanda Marie Johanson, b. Aug. 5, 1960.

1c. David Allen Johanson, b. Feb. 12, 1962.

In 1966, while taking voice lessons from Miss Gypsie Mahaffy of Sylvan Lake, Alberta, Marie won the Lacroix Trophy at the Kiwanis Music Festival in Red Deer, Alberta. The trophy is given to the highest performer in all solo classes.

Marie has organized and conducted children's choirs at school and in the community and has given vocal lessons.

SUBSECTION E

Russell W. Fitch

Russell W. Fitch, the youngest child of Earl B. and Edith Fitch, was born in the farm home at Centerville on June 24, 1911. Russell has spent his entire life in the district and is a farmer. He and his family live on the SW quarter of section 34, township 37, range 2, W. 5. Their address is Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

Russell was married to Aural Rick of the Bentley district on June 29, 1938. Aural was born September 15, 1912. Russell and Aural had seven children.

1. Amy Doreen Fitch, b. May 31, 1939.

Amy married Morley Schafer on June 4, 1959. They farm at Calmar, Alberta. Their children are:

1a. Robert Morley Schafer, b. Sept. 6, 1960.

1b. Jacqueline Ann Schafer, b. Oct. 5, 1963.

1c. Loren James Schafer, b. Dec. 12, 1965.

2. Charles Leo Fitch, b. July 2, 1940.

3. Mervin Mitchell Fitch, b. Aug. 21, 1941.

Mervin married Jean Dalrymple of California on August 18, 1963. Mervin and Jean Fitch live at

College Heights, Alberta where Mervin is employed at the Parkland Furniture Factory. They have three children.

3a. Jeannette Louise Fitch, b. Sept. 17, 1964.

3b. Margery Lenore Fitch, b. March 17, 1966.

3c. Morgan Edward Fitch, b. Jan. 18, 1970.

4. Raymond Russell Fitch, b. May 6, 1945.

Raymond died April 2, 1956 following a heart operation at the University Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta.

5. Paul Eugene Fitch, b. May 30, 1947.

6. Herbert Hugh Fitch, b. Aug. 4, 1949.

7. Alberta Aural Fitch, b. Jan 6, 1951.

Alberta is taking her nurse's training at the Red Deer College.

CHAPTER XI

DESCENDANTS OF PAUL BENJAMIN FITCH, SON OF ORSON DAVID AND DELIA RUTH (Clark) FITCH

Paul Benjamin Fitch was the third son of Orson David and Delia Ruth (Clark) Fitch. He was born on the homestead in Polk County, Nebraska on November 3, 1877 and moved to Fullerton, Nebraska, with the family when two years of age. Paul lived with the family and attended school in Fullerton until the age of fourteen.

Paul took advanced education in Pharmacy and engaged in this business throughout the major portion of his adult life.

For ancestral line of descent refer to chapter VIII.

On April 29, 1904, Paul B. Fitch married Geneva May Patrick. Geneva "Neva" was born in Missouri on April 20, 1886. Paul and Neva moved to Alberta soon after their marriage and settled on a farm (NW quarter, section 37, township 37, range 2, W. 5). After about four years they returned to Nebraska and opened a drug business at Beaver Crossing, but returned to the Centerville district in Alberta early in 1910.

Paul was quite prosperous while in Alberta, but was never happy with farm life, so called an auction and disposed of his chattles in March of 1915 and left for Omaha, Nebraska. He sold his farm holdings in Alberta in 1921.

Paul continued in the pharmacy business until his death April 18, 1931. Neva died of cancer March 14, 1926. Paul and Neva Fitch are buried in the Forest Lawn cemetery at Omaha, Nebraska.

Paul Benjamin and Geneva May Fitch had four children.

A. Cecil Clark Fitch. b. Oct. 10, 1905 in the Centerville district, west of Red Deer, Alberta.

B. Ruth Alberta Fitch, b. Mar. 12, 1907 in the Centerville district, west of Red Deer, Alberta.

C. Alice Josephine Fitch, b. Jan. 6, 1909 at Beaver Crossing, Nebraska.

D. Mabelle Pauline Fitch, b. Oct. 21, 1910 in the Centerville district, west of Red Deer, Alberta.

SUBSECTION A

Cecil Clark Fitch

Cecil Clark Fitch, the first born of Paul B. and Geneva M. Fitch, settled with the family in Omaha in 1915. He took his education in Omaha and at an early age began work with the Western Union Telegraph Company, with which he continued until retirement. His present address is 221 - 11 Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Cecil Fitch first married Myrtle Wilson. They had one daughter.

1. Betty Lou Fitch, b. Aug. 2, 1933.

On October 2, 1951, Betty Lou was married to Herbert Langston. They have three children.

- 1a. Brenda Kay Langston, b. May 7, 1953.

- 1b. Larry Paul Langston, b. Mar. 4, 1956.

- 1c. Timothy Ryan Langston, b. Nov. 9, 1962.

Cecil Clark Fitch married a second time. On March 15, 1947, Cecil married Dorothy C. Gibler. They have four children all born in Omaha, Nebraska.

2. Susan Ruth Fitch, b. Jan. 4, 1948.
3. David Paul Fitch, b. Mar. 13, 1949.
4. Deborah Jean Fitch, b. Dec. 31, 1951.
5. Janet Ann Fitch, b. Aug. 24, 1961.

SUBSECTION B

Ruth Alberta Fitch

Ruth Alberta Fitch, the eldest daughter of Paul Benjamin and Neva Fitch, was born at home in the Centerville district west of Red Deer, Alberta on March 12,

1907. Ruth moved with the family to Omaha, Nebraska in 1915 where she took her education.

After the death of her mother in 1926, Ruth cared for her father until her marriage on September 10, 1928 to Leroy Thomas. Leroy Thomas was born on March 3, 1904. Leroy was connected with the postal service in Omaha, and later at Jud, North Dakota, where he passed away February 24, 1952.

The children and grandchildren of Ruth Fitch and her husband, Leroy Thomas, are as follows:

1. Ruth Ann Thomas, b. Sept. 10, 1930.

On June 28, 1953, Ruth Thomas married Erwin Amundson who was born June 12, 1921. They have two children.

- 1a. Laura Ann Amundson, b. July 3, 1954.

- 1b. Ross Erwin Amundson, b. Oct. 16, 1962.

2. William David Thomas, b. Jan. 9, 1935.

William married Carol Ann Deutsch. Carol was born September 27, 1940.

- 2a. Mark David Thomas, b. Oct. 10, 1958.

- 2b. Cheryl Ann Thomas, b. Oct. 21, 1959.

- 2c. Karen Lynn Thomas, b. Mar. 8, 1961.

- 2d. William David Thomas, b. Jan. 26, 1964.

After being widowed for thirteen years, Ruth Alberta Fitch Thomas married Herbert Walker. The marriage took place on January 12, 1963. Herbert was born September 3, 1903. At the present time (1970), Ruth and Herb are living in Goldfield, Iowa where Herb works part time with the Goldfield Co-op Creamery and Cheese Factory.

SUBSECTION C

Alice Josephine Fitch

The third child of Paul Benjamin and Neva Fitch was Alice Josephine. She was born at Beaver Crossing,

Nebraska on January 9, 1909. Alice received her education in Omaha and when twenty years of age moved to Chicago. She married Richard A. Martin on May 5, 1938.

Alice and Richard A. Martin are authors of several books for children. Their address is: 1219 E. 54th St., Chicago, Illinois. They have one daughter.

1. Ricarda Alice Martin, b. Oct. 10, 1945.

The writer received a letter from Ricarda in Feb. 20, 1964 in which she said she was taking her second year of college at Perdue University in Lafayette, Indiana and was majoring in mathematics.

Ricarda graduated from Perdue University in June of 1966 and was teaching at Highwood Academy, Illinois, as of 1967.

Ricarda was married to Frank Perez in September 1966. Address reported in February of 1968 was: 12203 Vincennes, Blue Island, Illinois, 60405.

SUBSECTION D

Mabelle Pauline Fitch

Mabelle Pauline Fitch was the youngest child born to Paul Benjamin and Neva Fitch. Date of birth was October 21, 1910. She was born in the farm home in the Centerville district west of Red Deer, Alberta. She moved with the family to Omaha in 1915 where she took her education and grew to womanhood.

Mabelle married Thomas Turk but has been widowed for a number of years. Mabelle and Thomas lived at 2532 Prairie Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado, but Mabelle has now sold her home and we do not have her address. Mabelle and Thomas Turk had three daughters.

1. Pauline Turk, b. July 31, 1942.

Pauline married Nathan Tupper June 6, 1962. They have two children.

- 1a. Cheryl Marie Tupper, b. Sept. 20, 1966.
- 1b. Cynthia Ann Tupper, b. Mar. 14, 1968.
- 2. Jean May Turk, b. Oct 31, 1943.
Jean married Walter Leslie, Jr. May 20, 1967.
- 3. Barbara Ruth Turk, b. Oct. 2, 1944.
Barbara married George Nied June 9, 1965.
They have one son.
- 3a. Jeffry David Nied, b. April 15, 1969.



CHAPTER XII

DESCENDANTS OF CLARENCE HUBERT FITCH SON OF ORSON DAVID AND DELIA RUTH (Clark) FITCH

Clarence Hubert Fitch was the fourth living son of Orson David and Delia Ruth (Clark) Fitch. (For ancestral line refer to chapter VIII.)

Clarence was born in Fullerton, Nebraska on February 2, 1883 where he spent his boyhood years, later following the family in rural life in Nebraska and Kansas until 1902.

We must note at this point that Hubert John Fitch left Nebraska in the spring of 1902 and came to Alberta to spy out the land. Clarence followed his Uncle Hubert in November of the same year and they homesteaded in what later became known as the Centerville district. Clarence's homestead was the SW quarter of section 35, township 37, range 2, W. 5.

Clarence's father and brothers followed in the spring of 1903 and Clarence lived with his parents until his marriage to Jennie Wynne in November 1907.

The new couple moved into a newly built home across the road from the schoolhouse. Jennie Wynne was the stepdaughter of Edwin Fitch. She was born on October 22, 1892 and died in Red Deer, Alberta on November 10, 1969.

Clarence H. Fitch was of a mechanical nature. In the homestead days he bought a small stationary gas engine and served the community cutting firewood for the settlers during the winter months and tending his farm during the summer.

Clarence worked one summer in Red Deer as a garage mechanic and in November of 1912 moved to Long Beach, California where he continued in the same line of employment.

He spent some time in Montana and Dakota before returning to Alberta in 1916. He farmed in the Centerville district until about 1920, then moved to a farm near Condor, Alberta, later operating a repair shop in the village there.

During the second world war, Clarence served as a metal workers' instructor in Calgary for the Canadian Army.

Clarence and Jennie Fitch retired in Red Deer where he still lives at the present date (August 1971).

The children of Clarence Hubert and Jennie Fitch are as follows:

A. Ellen Ruth Fitch, b. Mar. 12, 1909 in the Centerville district west of Red Deer, Alberta.

B. Carlton Wynne Fitch, b. May 3, 1911. He died 1912 and was buried in the Red Deer cemetery.

C. Clarence Hubert Fitch, b. Apr. 28, 1913 at Long Beach, California. He died in early childhood and was buried in Dakota.

D. Vernon William Fitch, b. Apr. 18, 1916 in the Centerville district.

E. Arthur Harlan Fitch, b. Apr. 28, 1918 in the Centerville district.

F. Edward Orson Fitch, b. Mar. 11, 1927 at Condor, Alberta.

G. Jennie Mae Fitch, b. Apr. 2, 1929 at Condor, Alberta.

H. Cecil John Fitch, b. Jan 18, 1931 at Condor, Alta.

SUBSECTION A

Ellen Ruth Fitch

Ellen Ruth Fitch was the first born to Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch. Ellen married George Victor Barton of Condor on May 1, 1924. They lived on a farm near

Condor until their retirement at Vedders Crossing, B.C., where they had some property and ran a service station. Later they moved to Chilliwack where George passed away January 17, 1967. Ellen's present address is 211 Margaret Avenue, Chilliwack, British Columbia. Ellen's children and grandchildren are as follows:

1. Betty Mae Barton, b. Mar. 13, 1926.
Betty married Harry Elkin on December 15, 1944.
 - 1a. Arlene Mary Elkin, b. June 23, 1950.
 - 1b. Bonnie Marie Elkin, b. May 29, 1952.
 - 1c. George William Elkin, b. Jan. 7, 1963.
2. Jean Ruth Barton, b. Oct. 9, 1928.
She married Delbert Riggins on December 10, 1948.
 - 2a. Donna Marie Riggins, b. May 24, 1950.
 - 2b. Vella Jean Riggins, b. Dec. 4, 1951.
 - 2c. Irene Ruth Riggins, b. Sept. 27, 1955.
3. Victor Russell Barton, b. July 10, 1940.
He joined the Canadian Army and while stationed in Germany, he married Christell ----- on March 30, 1961.
 - 3a. Robert Joseph Barton, b. July 23, 1962.

SUBSECTION for D

Vernon William Fitch

Vernon William Fitch, the oldest living son of Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch, was born, as previously recorded, on April 18, 1916 in the Centerville district.

Vernon spent his early years on the farm at Condor, Alberta but is at present living in Red Deer, Alberta where he has been employed for a number of years with the Canadian Pacific Railways.

In 1939, Vernon married Cora Marion Thompson and they have two children.

1. Verna Marion Fitch, b. Feb. 19, 1940.

She married Rev. Ronald Arthur Gunton on September 1, 1957. Their children are:

1a. Vernon Claude "Samuel" Gunton, b. Oct. 30, 1960.

1b. Willa Wynne Jezebel Gunton, b. June 21, 1962.

1c. Christienne Faith Delilah Gunton, b. Jan. 3, 1964.

1d. Angelique Verity Zipporah Gunton, b. Mar. 6, 1965.

1e. Gabrielle Simone Belle-Monique Gunton, b. July 23, 1966.

1f. Tobijah Tamara Claudia Blanche Gunton, b. Oct. 21, 1970.

2. Terrance William Fitch, b. Mar. 21, 1946. He married Mary Bereza on July 5, 1969.

2a. Tanva Ann Fitch, b. Jan 11, 1971.

Vernon William Fitch, married a second time. The wedding took place on July 31, 1962 to Mildred Louise Woodford. Vernon and Mildred are at present living at 4530 - 46 St., Red Deer, Alberta.

SUBSECTION for E

Arthur Harlan Fitch

Arthur Harlan Fitch, second living son of Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch, was born April 28, 1918 at Center-ville, west of Red Deer, Alberta. He took his elementary schooling at Condor and high school in Red Deer. Arthur was a chartered accountant and worked in Calgary, Alberta, and later in Willows, California, and also in various places in British Columbia.

On August 1, 1959, Arthur married Gladys MacDonald. One daughter is reported. Arthur and Gladys as present live at Fort St. John, British Columbia.

1. Nancy Fitch, b. Aug. 25, 1960.

SUBSECTION for F

Edward Orson Fitch

Edward Orson Fitch (Eddie), the third living son of Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch, was born at Condor, Alberta on March 11, 1927 and died January 22, 1968 of a lingering illness. He was buried in Red Deer, Alberta. Eddie was a veteran of the second world war. On October 20, 1948, he married Sheila Kerchier. Four children were born to this union.

1. Richard Leo Fitch, b. Oct. 31, 1949.
2. Jenny Maurine Fitch, b. May 3, 1952.
3. Mary Louise Fitch, b. Apr. 12, 1953.
4. Kathleen Fitch, b. Oct. 3, 1960.

SUBSECTION for G

Jennie Mae Fitch

Jennie Mae Fitch, the second daughter of Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch was born at Condor, Alberta on April 2, 1929 where she grew up on the farm. Mae was married to Abe Giesbrecht on November 8, 1944. Mae and Abe live on a farm west of Rimbey, Alberta. Their children are as follows:

1. Diana Gwen Giesbrecht, b. Nov. 5, 1945.
Married Lawrence Nixon in 1965.
 - a. Lorne Timothy Nixon, b. June 22, 1966.
 - b. Leonard Terrence Nixon, b. April 4, 1969.
2. Joanne Gail Giesbrecht, b. Aug. 4, 1948. Married Dwight Fraser in 1967.
 - a. Kevin Blair Fraser, b. Feb. 29, 1968.
3. Donna June Giesbrecht, b. June 10, 1950. Married Ronald Hansen Nov. 2, 1968.

4. Patsy Lee Giesbrecht, b. Nov. 10, 1951.
5. Linda Lucille Giesbrecht, b. July 27, 1953.
Married Garry Peterson, Oct. 3, 1970.
6. Larry Dale Giesbrecht, b. Jan. 8, 1956.
7. Martie Dell Giesbrecht, b. Apr. 10, 1960.
8. Kelly Dean Giesbrecht, b. Sept. 11, 1963.
9. Darcy Lane Giesbrecht, b. Nov. 21, 1965.
10. Tracy Lynn Giesbrecht, b. Nov. 14, 1967.

SUBSECTION for F

Cecil John Fitch

Cecil John Fitch, youngest child of Clarence H. and Jennie Fitch, was born at Condor, Alberta on January 18, 1931.

Cecil Fitch is the senior partner of the firm "Fitch and Topp Foodmart Ltd." at Fort Nelson, British Columbia. The firm also owns other business in the town.

During the illness of his brother Eddie, Cecil provided considerable help for the family in various ways. Cecil has proved himself to be a successful business man. To the present time he has remained single.





CHAPTER XIII

DESCENDANTS OF LEWIS JOHN FITCH SON of ORSON DAVID and DELIA RUTH FITCH

Lewis John Fitch, was the youngest son of Orson David and Delia Ruth Fitch. Lewis was born in Nance County, Nebraska on September 6, 1892. His early years were spent on Nebraska and Kansas farms. (For ancestral line of descent refer to chapter VIII.)

When eleven years of age, Lewis moved with the family to the Centerville district in Alberta where he continued until settling on a homestead in the Leslieville district at the age of eighteen. When Lewis moved to his homestead he and his parents lived together until his mother's death in 1918.

Lewis spent quite some years on the farm at Leslieville, then disposed of his holdings and engaged in millwork and carpentry.

On May 17, 1915, Lewis married Theresa Marie Brown of Eckville, Alberta. At present, Lewis and Theresa are retired and live at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. They have five children who were all born in the Leslieville area.

- A. Clara Marie Fitch, b. Feb. 7, 1916.
- B. Laurette Eliza Fitch, b. Jan. 27, 1917.
- C. Olive Louise Fitch, b. Aug. 11, 1918.
- D. Hubert Ralph Fitch, b. Aug. 21, 1920.
- E. Delphene Lois Fitch, b. Nov. 4, 1921.

SUBSECTION A

Clara Marie Fitch

Clara Marie Fitch, the eldest child of Lewis J. and Theresa Fitch, was born February 7, 1916. Clara married Marion Franklyn Rollier on August 10, 1933. Clara and

Marion live at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. Their children and grandchildren are as follows:

1. Marie Isabel Rollier, b. Jan. 22, 1934 at Hespero, Alberta. Marie married Leo Thomas Quinlan in 1951 at Fort St. John, British Columbia. Leo Quinlan was born at Pincher Creek, Alberta on January 6, 1930. Marie and Leo live in Calgary and have the following children.

1a. Terry Thomas Quinlan, b. Apr. 20, 1952 at Fort St. John, B.C.

1b. Donna Marie Quinlan, b. Nov. 16, 1953 at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta.

1c. Lee James Quinlan, b. Oct. 29, 1955 at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta.

1d. Holly Ann Quinlan, b. Oct. 11, 1957 at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta.

1e. Todd Patrick Quinlan, b. Apr. 10, 1961 at Calgary, Alberta.

2. Lewis Albert Rollier, b. May 18, 1935. Lewis was married July 22, 1961 to Lois Isobel Hall. They reside at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, and have three children.

2a. Sheryl Donita Rollier, b. Oct. 2, 1962.

2b. Kelly Lou Rollier, b. May 14, 1965.

2c. Jackie Lynn Rollier, b. June 16, 1968.

3. James Clifford Rollier, b. Nov. 6, 1936. James married Donna Marie David on September 17, 1965. Donna was born January 1, 1937. They reside at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta.

3a. Jody Carol Rollier, b. July 22, 1971.

4. Ray Marion Rollier, b. Feb. 9, 1954.

SUBSECTION B

Lauretta Eliza Fitch

Lauretta Eliza Fitch, was the second child of Lewis John and Theresa Fitch. She was born on the homestead at Leslieville on January 27, 1917. Lauretta married Murray Lowe on February 7, 1936. At present they reside at Ladysmith, B.C. Their children and grandchildren are as follows:

1. Alan Murray Lowe, b. Dec. 20, 1936. On September 15, 1956 Alan married Arlene Lockart.

1a. Karen Marie Lowe, b. Jan. 28, 1958.

1b. Sandy Dianne Lowe, b. Aug. 22, 1959.

1c. Leslie Doreen Lowe, b. Nov. 1, 1960.

1d. Alan Grant Lowe, b. Sept. 18, 1963.

2. Delorus Delphene Lowe, b. Sept. 13, 1968. Delorus was married on June 7, 1958 to Russell Long. They have four children.

2a. Kelly Theresa Long, b. Aug. 12, 1959.

2b. Kim Danita Long, b. May 1, 1960.

2c. Christine Delorus Long, b. Apr. 20, 1962.

2d. Russel Dennis Long, b. Jan. 17, 1966.

3. Margaret Lauretta Lowe, b. May 30, 1940. Margaret married Norman Henstridge in 1960.

3a. Richard Norman Henstridge, b. June 13, 1961.

3b. Norma Lauretta Henstridge, b. Aug. 19, 1962.

4. Connie Theresa Lowe, b. Apr. 19, 1944. Connie married Neil Savard.

4a. Theresa Lynn Savard, b. Sept. 21, 1962.

4b. Murray Armond Savard, b. Sept. 14, 1963.

4c. Debbie Savard, b. Aug. 26, 1966.

4d. Donna Marie Savard, b. July 21, 1967.

SUBSECTION C

Olive Louise Fitch

Olive Louise Fitch, the third child of Lewis John and Theresa Fitch, was also born on the Leslieville homestead. Date of birth was August 11, 1918. Olive married Trueman Miller in 1937. Trueman joined the Canadian Army during the second world war and was killed in action in France, August 8, 1943. Olive and Trueman had two daughters.

1. Doreen Louise Miller, b. Apr. 13, 1938. Doreen married Clarence Schimpf on June 7, 1957.

1a. Sheryl Leslie Schimpf, b. Apr. 21, 1958.

1b. Lance Albert Schimpf, b. Feb. 5, 1962.

2. Merla Joy Miller, b. Dec. 13, 1939. Merla married Terrance Martin Dec. 7, 1957.

2a. Patricia Rose Martin, b. Sept. 20, 1959.

2b. Ward Allen Martin, b. June 10, 1961.

After being widowed for three years, Olive Louise Fitch Miller married Sam Leslie on September 7, 1947. Olive and Sam are at present living at Hassar, Alberta. Olive had her third and fourth children with her second husband.

3. Theresa Elizabeth Leslie, b. July 7, 1950. She was married to Benjamin Armstrong on March 29, 1969.

4. Melvin Edgar Leslie, b. Jan. 7, 1952.

SUBSECTION D

Hubert Ralph Fitch

Hubert Ralph Fitch, the fourth child and only son of Lewis John and Theresa Fitch, was born on the Leslieville homestead on August 21, 1920. It may be of interest

to mention that Bert was named after his father's uncle, Hubert John Fitch, and after his mother's father, Ralph Brown. Bert has followed various lines of work but chiefly along the auto mechanic trade. On June 13, 1942, Bert married Judith Luella Miller. Their children and grandchildren are as follows:

1. Sharon Elvina Fitch, b. Mar. 10, 1943. Sharon married Franklyn Glyn Siemens.

1a. Shelley Anne Siemens, b. Nov. 9, 1961.

1b. Shane Glyn Page Siemens, b. Oct. 22, 1962.

1c. Clayton Sloane Siemens, b. Dec. 26, 1964.

1d. Clarke Edward Siemens, b. Jan. 12, 1967.

2. Curtis Leaman Fitch, b. June 6, 1944. Curtis married Carolyn Joy Larsen.

2a. Calvin Leaman Fitch, b. Oct. 14, 1963.

2b. Corey John Hubert Fitch, b. Mar. 10, 1965.

2c. Russell Charles Fitch, b. Sept. 25, 1968.

2d. Laura Lyn Fitch, b. July 26, 1971.

3. Gary Lee Fitch, b. Sept. 24, 1946. Gary married Anne Pannenbecker on November 7, 1964.

4. Wendie Lynn Fitch, b. June 4, 1949. Wendie married Stanley Brandle on Sept. 4, 1971.

5. Susan Rae Fitch, b. Sept. 22, 1953. Susan married Steve Bill Fedoriw on November 22, 1969.

6. Nancy Gail Fitch, b. June 7, 1956.

SUBSECTION E

Delphene Lois Fitch

Delphene Lois Fitch, the youngest child of Lewis John and Theresa Fitch, was born on the Leslieville

homestead on November 4, 1921. Delphene married George Leslie Blair.

1. Charollette Echo Blair, b. June 7, 1940. She died Jan. 14, 1941.

2. Gordon Earl Blair, b. Sept. 12, 1958.

3. Blenda Louise Blair, b. Dec. 9, 1960.

Delphene and George Blair are at present living at Ladysmith, British Columbia.

CHAPTER XIV

BIOGRAPHIES of DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS of FITCH FAMILIES

In the following pages we give a brief account of a number of members of the Fitch family who have gained prominence and achieved something of value for mankind. It has not been possible with our limited time and finance available to give a definite record of the line of descent in every case, but all those mentioned are directly descended from the Essex line.

It might be well to mention here that while there are a few branches of the Fitch family who have not been able to establish direct connection with the Essex line, the writer feels there is no doubt but that they are all from one stock.

CHARLES FITCH

Charles Fitch, a descendent of Rev. James Fitch and his first wife, Abigail (Whitfield) Fitch, was born at Lisbon, New London County, Connecticut, on December 22, 1804. He was the son of Corporal Daniel Fitch and his second wife, Zipporah Allen; grandson of William Fitch and Mary "Paine" Fitch; great-grandson of Daniel Fitch and Anna "Cooke" Fitch; great-great-grandson of Major General James Fitch and his second wife, Alice (Bradford) (Adams) Fitch; great-great-great-grandson of Rev. James Fitch and his first wife, Abigail (Whitfield) Fitch.

We will here quote from a letter which the writer received from Ruth M. Talmage, Assistant Archivist of Brown University, Providence, R.I., dated March 26, 1965.

"Dear Mr. Fitch:

The following paragraph is quoted from the Historical Catalogue of Brown University — 1904.

'Fitch, Charles; student 1825-26. Ordained Congregational Minister; Pastor Abington, Conn. until 1832; Warren Mass., 1832-1834; Hartford, Conn.,

1834-1836; Free Congregational Church, Boston,
1836 - ?”

The following is a quote from a letter received by the writer from “The Congregational Christian Historical Society”, dated March 20, 1964.

“Dear Mr. Fitch:

. after some research I did find that Charles Fitch is mentioned in an old year book of 1838 as the minister of the Free Congregational Church, having been settled there in 1838. His name does not appear in the book of 1839 nor is his name listed in the necrology, probably due to the fact that he left the denomination.”

It appears that about 1839, Charles Fitch became connected with the “Millerite” movement and became one of their most prominent and best loved preachers. He worked in various areas proclaiming the first angel’s message of Revelation 14:7. “Fear God and give glory to him for the hour of his judgement is come.”

Elder Fitch spent about two years in Cleveland, Ohio where he published a paper “The Second Coming of Christ.” He is also credited with drawing the prophetic chart portraying the image and beasts of the prophecies in Daniel 2 and 7, which are still used by Seventh-day Adventist evangelists who preach on these chapters.

From a minor entry in the *Genealogy of the Surdam Family*, the writer would conclude that in all probability Elder Fitch preached in the Richford area where descendants of David Fitch were living in 1840 to 1844.

Charles Fitch married Zerviah Roth in 1827. They had nine children, four of which died in 1844. The only descendent we have been able to trace is one daughter, Mary Elizabeth Fitch who was living in Cleveland, Ohio in 1909.

Quoting from a letter received from Ernest Lloyd of Sanitarium, California, “she (Mary Elizabeth Fitch) supplied information regarding her father’s death on October 11, 1844.” This is recorded on page 113 of volume I of *Origin and History of Seventh-day Adventists*, by Arthur Spalding.

Ernest Lloyd says Charles Fitch was a real scholar, a man of pleasing personality, and a sincere Christian.

Elder Fitch died of a fever, the result of conducting three separate baptisms one cold day in early October and a long ride the day following to keep a speaking engagement. He was a man dedicated to duty, and to the service of God and the salvation of mankind. In his passing at the early age of forty years, it must be said he was filled with the "Blessed Hope" so well expressed by Sir Walter Raleigh — "But from this earth, this grave, this dust, My God shall raise me up I trust."

GEORGE A. FITCH

George A. Fitch of Spokane has not been definitely placed in line of descent but the following is taken from *The Great Northwest: A History* by Oscar Osburn Winther, Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1960, pages 371-372.

"Electric service in eastern Washington began in 1885 when the enterprising George A. Fitch of Spokane purchased a small dynamo that had been used by the steamer Columbia. The dynamo was delivered to Spokane Falls and there installed in the basement of a flour mill owned by Fitch. Then, upon securing a franchise to distribute power to the city of Spokane, Fitch's public service began in the form of operating twelve arc lamps on the city streets. The next year, 1886, some Spokane businessmen pooled their resources and formed what became known as the Spokane Falls Water Power Company and proceeded to purchase Fitch's plant and to lease the site for water power. From this small beginning emerged the Washington Power Company, which eventually built additional plants at Little Falls, Long Lake, Lake Chelan, and other places in the area. During the 1920's the Washington Power Company had become an important power company in the Spokane area and was about to harness the Columbia River at Kettle Falls when federal plans for the Grand Coulee project made the private project unfeasible.

WILLIAM CLYDE FITCH

(William) Clyde Fitch, America's Foremost Dramatist, was born at Elmira, New York, on May 2, 1865. He was the son of Captain William Goodwin Fitch and Alice Maud "Clark" Fitch.

Clyde's ancestral line is as follows: I. Rev. James Fitch; II. Capt. Nathaniel Fitch; III. Ensign Nathan Fitch; IV. Capt. Abraham Fitch; V. Benjamin Bissell Fitch; VI. Horatio Fitch; VII. Capt. William G. Fitch; VIII. (William) Clyde Fitch.

In this short biography it will not be possible to cover more than a brief account of the vast amount of work done by Clyde Fitch. His life work lasted until what we might call the present generation. Clyde never married.

The literary talents of Clyde Fitch began to show quite early in life. At the age of fourteen he wrote "The Rising Sun" for his school newspaper, but it is said his future career took shape during his years at Amherst College. While at college he wrote a story for the college paper about his parents' romance. Years later this story was worked into his play "Barbara Frietchie."

It is of interest to note that while in college he was a member of the same class as Robert Lansing who became Secretary of State during the administration of President Woodrow Wilson.

In all, Clyde Fitch wrote more than sixty plays, of which thirty-six were original. He had the honor of having them produced abroad as well as in the United States.

Some of the better known are: "Beau Brummell"; "Nathan Hale"; "The Moth and the Flame"; "Barbara Frietchie"; "The Climbers"; "The Way of the World"; "The Woman in the Case"; "The Truth"; and "The City." It has been said "The Truth" was a measure of the Fitch in him.

From the book, *Plays of Clyde Fitch*, published in four volumes, plays in volume I are: "Beau Brummell" published 1890; "Lovers Lane"; "Nathan Hale" 1898.

Others mentioned are "The Cowboy and the Lady" 1899; "Barbara Frietchie" 1899; "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" 1901; and "Her Own Way".

Quote from an introduction written by Montrose J. Moses and Virginia Gerson in a book published by Little, Brown and Co. of Boston in 1915 —

"Barbara Frietchie could not now be served without inevitably challenging comparison with the ideal set by Julia Marlow. "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" reflects the freshness of Ethel Barrymore at the very outset of her career."

On June 20, 1909, Clyde Fitch read his last play, "The City." Five days later he sailed for Europe to take a much needed rest which came too late. He died in France on September 4, 1909. His resting place is Woodlawn Cemetery, near New York.

If we could say anything further regarding Clyde's contribution to society, it is in connection with his last play "The City" which opened at the Lyric Theatre on December 21, 1909. The record says, "The audience roared its approval; cheers swept the house from the orchestra to the balcony." "Women were removed fainting; the awe-struck assemblage called for innumerable curtain calls".

In closing the biography of one who contributed so much to the entertainment of society in general let us not forget those words in Gray's Elegy. "The path of glory leads but to the grave."

CAPTAIN RALPH FITCH

Early in the year 1583, Captain Ralph Fitch set sail from England in his ship the "Tiger" with the hope of finding a more direct and time saving route to India. The dream of many a merchant since before the time of Columbus had been to find a short and easy way to the riches of the Far East.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, the high seas was dominated chiefly by the Spanish and the Portuguese navies and it was through the efforts of such

men as Captain Ralph Fitch and Sir Francis Drake that the foundation was laid for Britain's place in trade and commerce.

Before sailing, Captain Ralph Fitch was furnished with two letters from Queen Elizabeth, one for the Mogul Emperor Akabar and the other to the King of China.

Captain Fitch proposed to sail up the Mediterranean and land on the coast of Syria, then proceed overland to the Persian Gulf, again taking ship to India and Burma. Unfortunately, he was accused of a crime committed by Sir Francis Drake against the Portuguese and was detained in Goa for a period of two years before making his escape.

Captain Fitch is claimed to have been the first European to have penetrated the interior of India. He travelled extensively and was absent from England for a period of eight years. He returned April 29, 1591. It can be truthfully said he laid the groundwork for India becoming a part of the British Empire.

Captain Ralph Fitch was one of the original founders of the "British East India Company." His signature appears thirteen times in the company's records between February 2, 1607 and October 26, 1610.

According to probate of his will, we find his death took place in Somerset House in early October 1611.

REV. STEPHEN FYTCHE

The Rev. Stephen Fytche, Vicar of Louth County, Lincoln, England, was a descendant of the Fytches of Danbury Place, County Essex. He laid claim to being in direct line from John Fytche of Fitch Castle in the North who died 1294.

We find mention of three children: Elizabeth (1781-1865), Marianne, and John. We will now note briefly some of their descendants.

Elizabeth Fytche, daughter of Rev. Stephen Fytche, married the Rev. Mr. George Clayton Tennyson, M.A., LL. D., of Somersby in Louth Church on August

6, 1805. They had one son of which we will make special mention.

Alfred Lord Tennyson, son of Elizabeth Fytche Tennyson, was born in his father's rectory at Somersby on August 6, 1809. When seven years old, Alfred was taken to the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Stephen Fytche, and sent to the Grammar School at Louth. In 1820, he left Louth and worked with his father at Somersby. He married on June 13, 1850 and had two sons, Hallam Tennyson, born 1852, and Lionel Tennyson born 1854.

Alfred Lord Tennyson died October 6, 1892. His was a long and brilliant career, having been Poet Laureate during much of the reign of Queen Victoria. His life history is too recent and well known to necessitate a lengthy entry in these pages.

In the poem of "Isabel," Lord Tennyson more or less described his mother, Elizabeth Fytche Tennyson, who was a "remarkable and saintly woman." Concerning his mother, Lord Tennyson wrote:

"The world hath not another
(Tho' all her fairest forms are types of thee,
And thou of God in thy great charity)
Of such a finish'd chasten'd purity."

Hallam, Lord Tennyson (the poet's son) wrote of his grandmother: "She devoted herself entirely to her husband and her children. She had a great sense of humour, which made her room a paradise for the children. Alfred Tennyson and her other children inherited her pity 'for all wounded wings.' And my father was even then a keen observer of the habits of birds and beasts and ants and bees; was 'wise in winged things, and knew the ways of Nature,' of which he had the true poet's love. In later life this led to an earnest study of science."

Alfred Tennyson's first volume, "Poems, Chiefly Lyrical," was published in 1830. Among the favorable reviews was one by Tennyson's closest friend, Arthur Hallam, upon whose death Tennyson later wrote "In Memoriam," and also named his eldest son in honor of his

his departed friend. (This poem, along with his famous poem "Crossing the Bar", appear at the end of this biography.

Arthur Hallam, in his review which appeared in the "Englishman's Magazine", said:

"There is a strange earnestness in his (Alfred Tennyson's) worship of beauty which throws a charm over his impassioned song, more easily felt than described, and not to be escaped by those who have once felt it . . . The features of original genius are clearly and strongly marked. The author imitates no one; we recognize the spirit of his age, but not the individual form of this or that writer. His thoughts bear no more resemblance to Byron or Scott, Shelley or Coleridge, than to Homer or Caldron, Firdusi or Calidasa. We have remarked five distinctive excellencies of his own manner. First, his luxuriance of imagination, and at the same time his control over it. Secondly, his power of embodying himself in ideal characters, or rather moods of character, with such accuracy of adjustment that the circumstances of the narrative seem to have a natural correspondence with the predominant feeling and, as it were, to be evolved from it by assimilative force. Thirdly, his vivid picturesque delineation of objects, and the peculiar skill with which he holds all of them fused, to borrow a metaphor from science, in a medium of strong emotion. Fourthly, the variety of his lyrical measures and the exquisite modulation of harmonious words and cadences to the swell and fall of the feelings expressed. Fifthly, the elevated habits of thought, implied in these compositions, and importing a mellow soberness of tone, more impressive to our minds than if the author had drawn up a set of opinions in verse, and sought to communicate the love of beauty to the heart."

Alfred Tennyson's sister, Emilia Tennyson, born October 1811, was engaged to Arthur Hallam, but he died in 1833. She later married Capt. Jesse, R.N.

Alfred Lord Tennyson's estate was valued at \$731,690 but his literary contribution cannot be valued in dollars. He was a brilliant scholar, a man of sterling

qualities and of a sincere Christian character, a cousin of whom the Fitch family can be justly proud.

John Fytche, a son of the Rev. Stephen Fytche, had a son Lieut. General Albert Fytche, C.S.I., Chief Commissioner of British Burma and Agent to the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, who dedicated his two-volume history entitled, "Burma, Past and Present," "To my Cousin Alfred Tennyson, Poet Laureate."

It is of interest to note that the "Flower Beautiful" of India and Burma (*Dendrobium Fytchianum*) and one of the rare and beautifully plumed birds of those countries, *Bambusicola Fytchii*, are both named in honour of the aforementioned Albert Fytche.

Prelude to 'In Memoriam'

Strong Son of God, immortal Love,
Whom we, that have not seen thy face,
By faith, and faith alone, embrace,
Believing where we cannot prove;
Thine are these orbs of light and shade;
Thou madest Life in man and brute;
Thou madest Death; and lo, thy foot
Is on the skull which thou hast made.
Thou wilt not leave us in the dust:
Thou madest man, he knows not why,
He thinks he was not made to die;
And thou hast made him: thou art just.
Thou seemest human and divine,
The highest, holiest manhood thou:
Our wills are ours, we know not how;
Our wills are ours, to make them thine.
Our little systems have their day;
They have their day, and cease to be:
They are but broken lights of thee,
And thou, O Lord, art more than they.
We have but faith: we cannot know;
For knowledge is of things we see;
And yet we trust it comes from thee,
A beam in darkness: let it grow.

Let knowledge grow from more to more,
But more of reverence in us dwell;
That mind and soul, according well,
May make one music as before.

But vaster. We are fools and slight;
We mock thee when we do not fear:
But help thy foolish ones to bear,
Help thy vain worlds to bear thy light.

Forgive what seem'd my sin in me,
What see'd my worth since I began;
For merit lives from man to man,
And not from man, O Lord, to thee.

Forgive my grief for one removed,
Thy creature, whom I found so fair.
I trust he lives in thee, and there
I find him worthier to be loved.

Forgive these wild and wandering cries,
Confusions of a wasted youth;
Forgive them where they fail in truth
And in thy wisdom make me wise.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!

And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,

When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!

And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

WILLIAM FYTCHE, JR.

William Fytche Jr., another member of the Danbury Essex line, was President of the English settlement of Calcutta, India, in 1752. In 1746, he was appointed a member of the Council of Merchants at Calcutta. In 1749, he was made chief of the English Factory at Cossimbazaar.

He died August 19, 1752 at the age of thirty-five. This was four years before the "Black Hole of Calcutta." How Suraj-ood-dowlah, Nawab of Moorsherabad, captured Calcutta; how 131 Englishmen were stifled to death in the 'Black Hole' at Calcutta in one dreadful night in June, are facts which still live in the memory of the British nation.

Many commentators express the belief that if William Fytche had been living, this terrible tragedy would have been averted.

CAPTAIN MATTHEW FITCH

Captain Matthew Fitch was the earliest member of the Fitch family of which we have record to set foot on the New England coast.

In the years covered by his lifetime, England was fired with the ambition to extend her empire to the far corners of the earth and she can be justly proud of such men as Sir Francis Drake, Captain Ralph Fitch, Captain Matthew Fitch among others. It was men such as these, who, by foresight, ambition and courage, laid the foundation for the British colonial empire.

Captain Matthew Fitch was of the Bocking, Essex County, line of the Fitch family. He, with his fellow adventurers, set sail from Blackwall on the Thames on De-

cember 19, 1606 for the purpose of establishing the Virginia Plantation. Captain Newport was chief in command and headed the expedition, but Captain Matthew Fitch was a close friend and one of the chief officers. The ships sailed into Chesapeake Bay on April 26, 1607 where they landed and founded Jamestown, Virginia.

We find Captain Newport made several crossings carrying supplies to the new colony. In 1609, a fleet of nine vessels left England on June 8. Captain Matthew Fitch was in command of one of the ships. According to records they were caught in a hurricane near the Bahamas on July 25 and Fitch's ship was lost at sea.

Captain Matthew Fitch died as he had lived, a brave gentleman, a leader and pioneer on land and sea. His name stands out as one of the first explorers of Virginia, where he was wounded by Indians while building the outer fortifications at Jamestown, later being promoted to the command of a ship. He battled a hurricane which continued for forty hours and went down with his ship.

COLONEL THOMAS FITCH

Colonel Thomas Fitch, a fifth generation descendant of Thomas I who settled in Norwalk, Connecticut in 1638, was born August 12, 1725. He was the son of Governor Thomas Fitch, Governor of the Colony of Connecticut from 1754-1766.

Colonel Thomas Fitch graduated from Yale College in 1746 and figured prominently in the Indian War between Britain and France which began in 1755.

Considerable could be written concerning Colonel Fitch's army career and life in general but because of limited space it must suffice to record only a historic incident of lighter vein. In passing, however, it must be mentioned this in no way detracts from the fine character of the man, nor the important part his contribution made to the nation which was soon to come into its own.

In 1755, at his own expense, Colonel Fitch organized a company of volunteers to assist in the expedition against Crown Point. According to facts unearthed by the John B. Stetson Company, the Fitch company volunteers were poorly outfitted and untrained by comparison with the British regular army, and as a result came in for much ridicule from the professional soldiers with their fine uniforms. Before leaving for the battlefield, the Colonel's sister, Elizabeth said. "Every soldier needs a plume" so gave each one a chicken feather for his hat. It is said Colonel Thomas Fitch in jest "stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni." Incidentally, at that time "macaroni" was the popular word for a real dude, and there was the famous "Macaroni Club of London."

In the Battle of Ticonderoga, in an effort to keep his raw recruits in line, the Colonel dashed about on his horse with such speed and enthusiasm that one of the British regulars dubbed him "Yankee Doodle", and the name stuck. Thus we have the origin of Yankee Doodle.

The true source of the tune is uncertain but the pony and feather is genuine. And in the East Norwalk Cemetery there stands a stone inscribed:

In memory of
Thomas Fitch. Esqr.
who died Janry 16th. 1795
in the 70th year of his age
son of Governor Fitch
Colonel in the Revolutionary War
Called Yankee Doodle
by the British.

COLONEL ELEAZER FITCH

Colonel Eleazer Fitch, son of Joseph Fitch of Lebanon, and grandson of Rev. James Fitch of Norwich, Connecticut, born at Lebanon, Connecticut on August 29, 1726, was the head of a very prominent and popular household in Windham, Connecticut, at the period succeeding the French and Indian Wars.

Colonel Eleazer Fitch was remarkably distinguished in person, being six feet, four inches in height, and three hundred pounds in weight. He was called "the best looking officer in the American Army." He was also noted for social attractions and elegant accomplishments. He had inherited an ample estate; enjoyed superior educational and social advantages; graduated from Yale College, 1743; was a lawyer; and was especially distinguished for musical taste and acquirement and appreciation of art and literature. His stately mansion, built in 1769 on Zion's Hill, Windham, was one of the most beautiful residences in Eastern Connecticut. Here many daughters, distinguished like their father, grew up and took their place in society.

The following sketch is reprinted from Miss Larned's "History of Windham County, Connecticut," and is introduced here to show how the Fitches took different sides in the Revolution.

"At an early age, Col. Eleazer Fitch, entered public life, serving as a Colonel in the French war, aiding in the negotiation of the Delaware purchase, and later securing the position of High Sheriff of Windham County.

"During the time of his office of High Sheriff of the county while the Revolution was in progress, Col. Fitch, who loved his royal master, King George III, and hated violent demonstrations of the patriots, had the temerity to assert, 'that the Norwich and Windham people had acted like scoundrels in their treatment of those who failed to take an active part in the patriot cause.' The people thus stigmatized came together in anger, and though they did not lay violent hands upon one so honored and beloved, they showed their displeasure by resolving that they would administer tar and feathers to anyone 'who should aid said Fitch in any way,' and so his wheat and grass were left standing, and considerable trade withdrawn from him.

"Having served in the French war under the commission of King George, a sense of honor and loyalty forbade him to turn against his master and former comrades.

Friendly ties also attached him to the British army. His fine taste was shocked by the roughness and bluntness of the ardent patriots, their vehement denunciations and violent onslaughts outraged his sense of justice; and yet his official position; his business and family connections; and his true regard for his own countrymen, made open opposition impossible. Therefore he remained silent among the general hubbub, and did not affiliate with either the patriots or loyalists.

"Due to the high position of Colonel Fitch, and his personal popularity, he was saved from inspectorial visits, which were common at the time. 'Everybody loved Colonel Fitch,' and hoped that he might be won over to the popular sympathies. Most earnest efforts were made by his former business partner, Governor Jonathan Trumbull (in the great mercantile firm of Trumbull, Fitch & Trumbull) and other prominent patriot leaders, to overcome his scruples and induce him to endorse their cause. Windham's forbearance toward Colonel Fitch was exceptional as it was scarcely safe for a resident or visitant of this belligerent township to be suspected of the slightest leaning toward Toryism.

"After the remonstrance of friends, the forbearance of opponents, and the personal promise by Washington of high position in the patriot army, had failed to win him to their cause, the people of Windham were still loath to proceed against Colonel Fitch, and he was allowed to retain his high office until citizens of another town, unbiased by personal affection, asked that Captain Jabez Huntington be appointed High Sheriff of Windham County, Connecticut in place of Colonel Fitch, which was done.

Colonel Fitch married Amy Brown in 1746 and they had twelve children. In September 1783, Colonel Fitch and his family were among the band of exiles which left New York for St. John's, New Brunswick, Canada. Though not absolutely forced from Windham, Connecticut, Colonel Fitch could not longer remain in his old home with any degree of comfort. The personal prestige that had so

long shielded him from ill treatment passed away with the lapse of years. The new generation growing up forgot his past services and position, and thought of him only as an enemy to his country and the patriot cause. It was difficult to obtain supplies for his family. Ardent Sons of Liberty, had decreed 'that no mills should grind for, no merchant sell goods to, a Tory.'

"Colonel Fitch was now watched, guarded, and subjected to vexations and ruinous persecution. Being broken in spirit, health, and fortune, nothing was left for him but to withdraw from Windham and spend the remainder of his days in hopeless exile, the unhappy victim of misplaced loyalty and too chivalrous devotion to an unworthy sovereign."

Colonel Eleazer Fitch died in 1796 at Chambly, Quebec.

The origin of the name of Fitch Bay, Stanstead County, Quebec, has not been established. It is presumed that the town was founded by a descendant of Colonel Eleazer Fitch or the family of one of the other Fitch Royalists who moved to Canada during and after the Revolution.

LIEUT. JOHN FITCH INVENTOR OF THE STEAMBOAT

Lieut. John Fitch was born at South Windsor, Connecticut on January 21, 1743. His line of descent is as follows from Thomas Fitch and Anne Reeve Fitch of Bocking County, Essex, England.

I. Joseph Fitch (brother of Rev. James Fitch) settled in the vicinity of Hartford, Connecticut about 1650. He married Mary Stone.

II. Captain Joseph Fitch, married Prudence

III. Joseph Fitch, married Sarah Shaler.

IV. Lieut. John Fitch, married Luey Roberts.

A very complete account of the life and achievements of Lieut. John Fitch is contained in a book entitled,

Poor John Fitch. This book is not fiction, but written from facts taken from a diary kept by Mr. Fitch, as well as newspaper accounts of his achievements and various reliable sources.

All available records point to the fact that the life of John Fitch was made up of a succession of hard luck, misfortune and disappointment. His mother died soon after his fourth birthday and during the next two years he, with his younger sister, was much alone while the father sought a new companion to take charge of the brood of six children, of whom John was the fifth.

John had little opportunity to attend school, but was a bright student and applied himself diligently. His greatest interest was in mathematics, science, astronomy and surveying, of which by perseverance he gained considerable knowledge. Incidentally, he served as a surveyor during the Revolution, and his maps of what was then known at the Great Northwest were the best procurable and in general use for years afterward.

Lieut. John Fitch was a clockmaker, goldsmith, silversmith, mechanic, engineer and inventor. He is the true inventor of the steamboat. Proven records tell us that John Fitch first got the idea of building a steamboat in April 1785. This was twenty-two years before Robert Fulton conceived the idea and was given credit for the invention. It is quite true that coming a generation later, Fulton made the steamboat a commercial success but records now on file in the Library of Congress prove John Fitch to be the true inventor — a genius born a generation too soon.

On February 12, 1925, Congressman Ben Johnson of Bardstown, Kentucky sponsored a bill asking for an appropriation of \$15,000.00 for a monument in acknowledgement of John Fitch as inventor of the steamboat. The bill received a unanimous vote. The monument was unveiled May 25, 1927 and stands in the Public Square at Bardstown, Kentucky. Much credit is due Mrs. Ben Johnson for her work in gathering proof of John Fitch being entitled to the honour.

Lieut. John Fitch received a patent from the Federal Congress which was granted August 6, 1791 and signed by George Washington. This patent protected his rights in the United States for a period of fourteen years. A French patent was granted by King Louis XVI and bears the date of November 20, 1791 which protected the invention in France for fifteen years. It is of interest to note that a boat built by Fitch in 1796 was driven with a screw propellor.

The question is often asked why did John Fitch's invention not prove a success in his day. The answer is not as hard to find as it might seem. The New England Colonies had just won their independence and credit was not easy to obtain at home. England naturally was not too ready to make money available to what they considered a bunch of rebels. France was torn with internal trouble which led to the Napoleonic wars, so, while Mr. Fitch got his patent registered there, he failed to get financial support. Spain was willing to buy the invention for the sole right of the King of Spain but Fitch refused, saying, "if there is any glory or profit my country shall have it."

Probably the chief obstacle to securing financial backing at home was friction between Fitch and those in Boston who could have sponsored the enterprise and provided the necessary funds. Transportation for the settlements beyond the mountains in the Ohio valley was a serious drawback at the time. Fitch hoped to provide steamboat service on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers through the port of New Orleans and the Gulf of Mexico. This was vigorously opposed by the Atlantic coast interests, some of which hoped for a series of canals to bring all commerce through Boston and the Atlantic seaboard, thereby reaping a handsome profit for themselves. The reader will readily see this left "Poor John Fitch" in a hopeless position and he died a broken man June 4, 1798.

A brief account of the private life of John Fitch may be of interest to the reader.

Early in life John Fitch engaged in various lines of work, being ambitious and willing to apply himself wherever a dollar could be made. In boyhood he assisted on the farm and on at least one occasion carried the chain for a surveyor. He also served a short season as a sailor, after which he signed an agreement as an apprentice to a clockmaker. This proved rather unprofitable as he was unfairly treated and not given the opportunity to learn the trade which one could reasonably expect.

John Fitch later operated a business on his own, clockmaking and gold and silversmithing. He received considerable profit from the manufacture of silver buckles which were quite in demand at the time.

While in business in Simsbury, Connecticut, Lieut. Fitch met and married Lucy Roberts on December 29, 1767. Lucy was several years older than John and unfortunately both were quick tempered so their home life was anything but peaceful. Their first child, Shaler, was born November 3, 1768 and the second, Lucy, in July 1769.

On January 18, 1769, unable to endure his wife's sharp tongue any longer, John left home never to return. To his credit it must be said that at the time he did not know his wife was pregnant. Also, he left all his property to her. Incidentally at the time he had considerable property and it later became quite valuable. Nowhere in his diary does he ever say an unkind word about his wife. He left with only the clothes on his back and less than eight dollars in his pocket.

We do not wish to give the impression that Fitch was a man who was faultless, but we find that he was a man willing to protect others at his own expense. On at least one occasion he stood ready to sacrifice his good name to protect the honour of a woman whom another had deceived.

After leaving home John engaged in surveying and other activities. He served in the Revolutionary Army and advanced to the rank of Lieutenant. While on a surveying party on the Ohio River in 1782, he was taken

prisoner by the Indians, later being turned over to the British. Due to exposure his health was seriously affected and he suffered rheumatic trouble for several years thereafter. It was during this period of illness that he conceived the idea of the steamboat. We must also note the fact that Fitch built no less than three boats which were propelled by steam power, each proving more successful than the previous one. Control of the steam pressure posed the chief problem in the initial stages. As previously mentioned, the chief obstacle was limited funds with which to carry on. Fitch raised considerable through the sale of maps, and this was bolstered by small donations.

Like so many great men, Fitch received little recognition during his lifetime. He died at Bardstown, Kentucky on July 4, 1798 and was buried there.

FRED W. FITCH

FRED W. FITCH CO. of DES MOINES, IOWA

Fred Fitch was the son of Dr. Lucius Henry Carey Fitch who was descended from the Connecticut family line. Dr. Fitch settled in Boone County, Iowa, about 1847, where he had a good practice. He married Mary Eleanor Epperson on November 22, 1849 and they had nine sons and three daughters. Fred, being the tenth child, was born in Burnside, Webster County, Iowa, January 28, 1870.

The father, Dr. Fitch, moved to Springfield, South Dakota, about 1872, and started a cattle ranch. Due to grasshoppers and drought, the enterprise failed after four years and the Dr. and two older sons left for California, while the mother and other children returned to Iowa. Years of poverty and hardship faced the mother and family. Fred was bound out to a farmer for his keep at the age of eight, and from then on was on his own. Needless to say, the first years provided little more than a bare existence. At the age of sixteen he took work on a ranch at Rapid City, South Dakota, where he spent several months before returning to Iowa and farm life.

At twenty years of age Fred became apprenticed to a barber where, after three months, he was considered to have learned the trade. Being confident in his ability, he bought out the business there and operated it successfully for six months, but because of a scalp condition which he had suffered from childhood, he sold out and went to Des Moines in the hope of a cure. The treatment he received from the specialists in the city gave him no relief so after a time he opened a shop at Madrid, thirty miles from Des Moines. There at Madrid he spent every spare moment in a study of the scalp, and related conditions. A Dr. R. W. Breckbill gave Fred the full use of his medical books in his search for a remedy and he finally perfected a preparation which he called "Fitch's Ideal Dandruff Remover."

In 1897, after five years of experimenting, the remedy was ready for use in his shop. Repeated tests gave proof of the healing qualities of the medication and soon local druggists were asking for bottles for home use. Needless to say, production was slow because of lack of financial backing both for manufacturing and advertising. It will be of interest to note the slow growth during the first years. Total returns for the year 1900 were only \$273.50. In 1901, \$2,220.00; 1902, \$2,608.00; 1903, \$3,229.71; 1904, \$5,158.18 1905, \$8,696.62; 1906, \$17,255.-27. With the energy and determination which characterizes all successful men, the venture continued to prosper until it became the largest organization in the world manufacturing hair preparations.

In 1923, Fred Fitch founded a magazine "The Square Deal" which was distributed free to every barber in the United States.

In 1892, Fred married Miss Lettie Williams. Children were as follows: Zoe Francis, b. May 7, 1894; died in early childhood. Gail Walter, b. July 2, 1898. Mildred Belle, b. March 29, 1901. Lois Ardelle, b. September 2, 1902. Lucius William, b. March 27, 1906.

DR. WILLIAM EDWARD FITCH

Dr. Fitch was born on May 29, 1867, and grew up on a farm in Alamance County, North Carolina. This was only twelve miles from the Alamance Battle Ground where the first battle of the American Revolution was fought on May 16, 1771. Dr. Fitch wrote a book about the battle entitled "*Some Neglected History of North Carolina.*"

Dr. Fitch's family line of descent is as follows: (10) Dr. William Edward Fitch; (9) William James Fitch; (8) Robert Fitch; (7) William Fitch; (6) Thomas Rosewell Fitch; (5) Col. Jonathan Fitch; (4) Gov. Thomas Fitch (see p. 120); (3) Thomas Fitch; (2) Thomas Fitch; (1) Thomas Fitch who was a brother of Rev. James Fitch, both of whom settled in Connecticut in 1638.

After graduating from academy, William Edward Fitch worked as clerk and salesman in various stores, later being employed in the drug business of Callum Drug Co. of Greensboro, N.C. Two years later we find him with Messrs. Tate Brothers, wholesale druggists, where he also spent two years.

Mr. Fitch studied medicine at the University Medical College, New York City. He graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md. on April 1891. He passed the North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners at the Asheville (North Carolina) meeting of the Medical Society on May 29, 1891.

Dr. Fitch joined the North Carolina State Medical Society at the Asheville meeting, and attended a banquet given the Society at Hot Springs on the evening of May 29, 1891, this being his twenty-fourth birthday.

Dr. Fitch opened a practice at Graham, North Carolina on June 1, 1891, where he had a good practice. On October 15, 1891, he married Minnie Crump. They lived in Graham until June 14, 1894, then moved to Durham, North Carolina, where he continued his medical practice until April of 1897. From Durham, Dr. Fitch went to Savannah, Georgia, where he specialized in surgery and

gynecology and also edited a medical journal. The first issue of the "Georgia Journal of Medicine and Surgery" came out on July 1, 1897, under the joint editorial management of Dr. William E. Fitch and Dr. St. J.B. Graham. Dr. Fitch carried the major part of the load until February 1, 1902.

During the Spanish American war, Dr. Fitch served the War Department as surgeon to the U.S.M.H. Service at the Port of Savannah, and at the Savannah Quarantine Station while the troops were being mustered through quarantine.

On September 29, 1906, Dr. Fitch and his family moved to New York City and located there permanently.

Dr. Fitch was appointed "Lecturer on Surgery" in the Medical Department of Fordham University, School of Medicine in December of 1906. In September 1909 he purchased "Pediatrix" and reorganized it and put the publication on a broader basis.

In 1906 Dr. Fitch became a member of the Founders and Patriots of America. On May 13, 1908, he was elected Registrar-General of the General Court of the Order, which office he held for two years, and was then elected Secretary-General of the General Court of the Order at the annual meeting held in New York City on May 18, 1910.

Dr. William Edward Fitch and Silas Hedding Fitch worked together in the preparation of a Fitch family genealogy which was never published. Some of the findings and conclusions of their research have been made note of in the opening chapters of this book.

Dr. Fitch is the author of several books on history and medical subjects, one of which is *Dietotherapy*, by William Edward Fitch and forty contributors, in three volumes.

He was Assistant Attending Gynecologist, Presbyterian Hospital Dispensary, and Attending Physician to the Vanderbilt Clinic.

His home address in 1929 was Bedford Springs Hotel, Bedford, Pa. He was mentioned in Who's Who in

America 1928-1929. Children of Dr. Fitch and Minnie Crump Fitch are: Lucile Fitch, b. August 8, 1893. Elizabeth Fitch, b. April 4, 1895. William Edward Fitch, Jr., b. September 1, 1901.

MAJOR GENERAL JAMES FITCH

Major James Fitch stands forth remarkably prominent as one of the most versatile men of his time in the United Colonies. He holds a large place in history in connection with the landed interests of eastern Connecticut. He was noted as a land-surveyor, land registrar, land-speculator and land holder. He was distinguished as a soldier, magistrate, founder and statesman, champion of the peoples' rights and of the Connecticut charter. Miss Larned, the historian, calls him "Father of Windham County, Conn."

Major James Fitch was born August 2, 1649, at Saybrook, Conn., first child of Rev. James Fitch by his first wife, Abigail Whitfield Fitch. He was a noted friend and patron of the Indians, continuing in the footsteps of his father. He benefited from the confidence the Rev. Mr. James Fitch had inspired through a consistent record of fair dealing with the aborigines.

By legislative grants, by purchase from other grantees, and gifts from his grateful wards, the Indian sachems, Fitch accumulated a vast domain of acres, measured in square miles.

Major James Fitch and his brother, Capt. Daniel Fitch, third son of Rev. Mr. James Fitch, were highly esteemed as brave soldiers and experienced partisans in Indian warfare. In the summer of 1696 a band of Mohawks committed some depredations on the western towns in Massachusetts, and Major Fitch's help was asked. The enemy Mohawks hastily retreated when word reached them that Major Fitch had taken the field. Thus this hostile Indian incursion quickly ended.

Yale University honors Major Fitch as its earliest patron. He contributed to the funds gathered for its first establishment, gave the glass and nails for the first college edifice, and endowed it with 637 acres of land

in the town of Killingly. His name is honored by "The Fitch Gateway" in the Harkness Memorial Quadrangle, New Haven, Conn. Both sides of the Gateway bear inscriptions telling of his service as a founder of Yale College, now Yale University.

Major General James Fitch first married Elizabeth Mason, by whom he had five children. By his second wife, Mrs. Alice Bradford Adams he had eight, one of whom, Daniel, was the great-great-grandfather of Elder Charles Fitch, who figured prominently in preaching the three angels' messages of Revelation 14 during the years 1839 to 1844. (See Charles Fitch.)

Major Fitch died Nov. 10, 1727. A very complete account of Major General Fitch is given in the second volume of *History of the Fitch Family*, by Col. Rosoe C. Fitch.

LIEUTENANT GRAHAM NEWELL FITCH, U.S.N.

Graham Newell Fitch is one whose name deserves a high place in our family archives. He was born February 26, 1903 at Fort Logan H. Roots, Arkansas, where his father was stationed. The courage and fortitude displayed during the closing hours of his short life should be an incentive to all who read this brief account to hold high the banner of honour, truth, and manliness, not only in the eye of men but in the sight of God.

Graham Newell Fitch was the tenth generation from Rev. James Fitch. The line of descent is as follows: 1. Rev. James Fitch and first wife, Abigail Whitfield Fitch; II. Samuel Fitch; III. Jabez Fitch; IV. Dr. Pelatiah Fitch; V. Elisha Fitch; VI. Dr. Frederick Fitch; VII. Hon. Graham Newell Fitch; VIII. Hon. Henry Satterlee Fitch; IX. Col. Graham Denby Fitch; X. Graham Newell Fitch.

His early schooling was at Duluth, Minn., but from 1912 to 1914, he was with his parents in Europe and attended school at Florence, Rome, Munich, Dresden, Berlin, Vienna, and Venice. From 1914 to 1919, he studied in Washington, D.C.

In 1919, President Wilson gave him an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. Upon graduation in 1923, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Rochester.

In 1915, at his request, he was sent to the naval submarine school at New London, Conn. After graduation he took service as torpedo officer on the submarine S-4.

On Saturday, December 17, 1927, as the S-4 was emerging from a series of submerged tests she was rammed by the Coast Guard Cutter "Paulding" at 8:17 p.m. and sank immediately in 102 feet of water 1800 yards off shore near Provincetown, Mass. The following day a diver who was sent down heard rappings on the inside of the torpedo room. No other sign of life was visible. A sister ship, the S-8 and the U.S.S. Falcon were soon on the scene and were able, with their oscillators to make contact with those trapped inside the torpedo room by Morse code. The first message tapped out was, "Is there any hope?"

Rescue work at the time was impossible, but when the submarine was raised on March 12, 1928, it was found there was no evidence of panic among the five men imprisoned in the death chamber. The young officer had perfect order and had, to all appearances, instilled a spirit of fearlessness and peace among his men as he tirelessly tapped out the messages for 72 hours before being overcome for lack of air. His last message was, "All's well." Evidently his hand was in the hand of God and he fell asleep fully confident that all was well between him and his Redeemer.

We will here enclose a copy of a letter which Roscoe C. Fitch received from Rear Admiral S.S. Robinson, U.S. Navy Superintendent, dated November 21, 1929.

"I thank you very much for your interesting letter, also the portrait illustration of the late Lieutenant Graham Newell Fitch, U.S. Navy. I shall have this portrait nicely framed and placed in the Naval Academy Museum accompanying the wrench, and I am sure it will be appreciated and attract attention as time goes on.

"I agree with you that Lieutenant Fitch deserves a high place among the naval heroes of America, and his gallant death is a fine example of courage."

The wrench spoken of was a heavy metal torpedo wrench which Graham used to tap out the Morse code messages.

The following is a portion taken from a long editorial of the "Washington Evening Star" of March 28, 1928:

"ALL'S WELL"

"Thorough search of the S-4's hull in dry dock has failed to reveal any written message from the forty members of the crew who perished when the submarine went down. One man wrote a will. Another scribbled directions for disposal of his body. But the final tidings sent to the outside world by the prisoners of the S-4 was the 'All's well' tapped out in code with a wrench by Lieut. Graham N. Fitch of Washington, who, with five enlisted men, lived upward of seventy-two hours in the torpedo room after the submarine was sunk off Provincetown. It is well to let that message stand as the final word from the S-4. There is something exceedingly fine about it. Our Navy may treasure it, along with Lawrence's 'Don't give up the ship;' Farragut's 'Damn the torpedoes; full speed ahead!'; Perry's 'We have met the enemy and they are ours,' and Jones' 'I have not yet begun to fight!' There is calm resignation and beautiful courage about 'All's well.' Men could ask for no braver words to live after they are gone.

"Examination of the torpedo room shows that Lieut. Fitch, in an effort to make his signals most audible, climbed a ladder and stood with his back arched against the steel wall of the submarine, and, holding a heavy wrench in one hand, tapped out his signals on a spot high above his head. He must have stood in that position for most of the seventy-two hours that his signals were heard. And when he was overcome with weakness or lack

of air, he either fell or climbed from the ladder to a bunk and continued to tap out his signals to the last. We must remember, to get the full significance of this picture, that it was the officer who did the signaling. The officer was in charge and upon the officer rested the hopes of the enlisted men under him. There was no wild din from the torpedo room as if the five enlisted men had seized wrenches and hammers to pound upon their prison walls in a frenzy of fear. There was only one man tapping. The rest, in obedience to his orders, lay quietly in their bunks. Here was faith and courage and a discipline that did not crumple and fall to pieces in the face of danger. Here was where Fitch did his duty as an officer, where his men did their duty. Here is a lesson and a moral that speaks more eloquently than the most impassioned of eulogies. Nothing can be added in the name of heroism that was not spoken from the darkened hull of the S-4 in those two concluding words — 'All's well.' ”

In 1929, the S-4 was repainted and re-equipped and used by the Navy Department very appropriately, solely for the testing out of all kinds of safety devices. When the Navy repainted the inside of the S-4, orders were given not to paint over that part of the torpedo hatch that showed plainly the marks made by the torpedo wrench when Lieut. Fitch, for the greater part of seventy-two hours, was using it to rap signals, leaning backwards painfully from the top of a ladder. He tapped in one place only, the place from which the sounds would carry best.

JUDGE HORACE W. FITCH

Judge Fitch, a man of note who lived well into the present century, was born December 23, 1873 in Potter, Yates County, New York. He was appointed county judge of Ontario County, New York on February 23, 1916. While there he also had charge of the Childrens' Court. Between 1917 and 1929 Judge Fitch made between 800 and 1,000 addresses on "Boys" and the "Psychology of the Boy" in several states and in Canada.

In May of 1927, he addressed the National Conference of Probation Officers at Des Moines, Iowa. This address became generally read among those interested in penal and sociological work, being published as the leading article in "The Newer Justice and the Courts."

Judge Fitch was of the eighth generation from Rev. James Fitch and Priscilla Mason Fitch. It is of interest to note the Judge's father was a second cousin of the older Fitches who settled in Alberta at the turn of the century.

ROSCOE CONKLING FITCH

Our list of distinguished Fitches would fall far short if special mention were not made of Colonel Roscoe Conkling Fitch. He was born March 11, 1903 at Scottville, Mason County, Michigan. He was the son of Judge Virgil A. Fitch and Effie (Boss) Fitch.

When only eleven years of age and a pupil of the local school, he contributed an article on school activities to the Ludington, Michigan "Daily News". While in high school the editor of the "Daily News" made him high school reporter of the paper.

At age sixteen he went to Reed City, Michigan with the Ludington high school team which won a debate taking the affirmative side in support of Compulsory Military Training. While in Reed City, he received a wire inviting him to represent his father at the Lincoln Club banquet at Grand Rapids, Michigan. After the banquet, Roscoe was taken by State Senator, Merle H. Defoe to the private residence of General Wood and introduced to the General as "Speaker of the Michigan Third House."

While still in high school, he wrote a sketch entitled "Character Delineation of George Washington, Father of our Country." This was published in several Michigan newspapers on Washington's birthday.

In 1920, Roscoe connected as clerk with the Arthur Anderson and Co. of Certified Public Accountants of the

Epworth Assembly at the Chicago office in the Harris Trust Building.

Roscoe C. Fitch took considerable advanced education. He traveled rather extensively in the western states and worked in various capacities on different newspapers.

Roscoe was the owner of a very valuable library which included volumes handed down by his great-grandfather, Justice Elijah Fitch, and the complete law library of his great uncle, Hon. Elijah Nelson Fitch. In addition, he had practically all published writings of Fitch authors. Unfortunately, according to a letter which the writer received from John Knowles Fitch, the Roscoe Fitch family home in Detroit was destroyed by fire and the library of over one thousand volumes was destroyed. This was a severe loss to the entire Fitch family as well as Roscoe.

As far as the Fitch family is concerned, Roscoe's greatest accomplishment was his work of collecting and compiling genealogical records for the publishing of *The History of the Fitch Family from 1400 to 1930*. It is most unfortunate that these volumes are not in the library of every Fitch home.

Roscoe was one of the prime movers in the organization of a national and international Fitch Family Association and was elected the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Association at a meeting held December 4, 1928, in the office of Francis Emory Fitch, Inc., in the Fitch Building, 138 Pearl Street, New York City. Winchester Fitch, Esq., was elected the first President and John Knowles Fitch, First Vice-President of the Fitch Family Association.

Roscoe's father, Judge Virgil A. Fitch, graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan and was admitted to the practice of law at the age of twenty-one years. During a visit with his uncle, Hon. Elijah Nelson Fitch at Ludington, Michigan, Judge Fitch witnessed the wreck of the "John Rutter", off the Ludington shore on Lake Michigan. This was a four-masted

barge in command of Captain Jerry Simpson. The ship went down on the night of October 31, 1878, and the crew had to climb high into the rigging to escape the waves that washed over the sunken hull. The morning of November 1, 1878, presented a scene that will never be forgotten by the people of Ludington. Judge Fitch wrote a poem describing the almost miraculous rescue of the crew. This poem, entitled "Sunset on the Stranded 'Rutter' " was published in Judge C. G. Wing's "History of Mason County, Michigan" and John Fitzgibbon in his column, "Gossip from the State Capitol" in the Detroit News, January 30, 1927 said:

"Poets have always been rare in Michigan's Legislatures, but the present session has one. He is Representative Virgil A. Fitch of Ludington. Law is his profession and his years are 67. First elected a law-maker in 1919, he became Prosecuting Attorney of his county in 1922, then back to the Legislature in 1925. He calls writing his recreation. His first efforts were prose — historical sketches of the Ludington district. Then he got the knack of turning out sketches in verse. He can produce a poetical historical sketch and a prose sketch with equal facility."

Here are the stanzas of the 1927 Michigan Legislative poet's story of the foundering of the "John Rutter."

SUNSET ON THE STRANDED "RUTTER"

By Hon. Virgil Adolphus Fitch

Their names in bronze, lest we forget
Our own longshoremen true
Who left the harbor once to save
Brave "Sockless Simpson's" crew.

Young Harbough lived to tell the tale
Of how he reached the shore
Now Lake View children wonder why
"The white wings" are no more.

'Twas in the fall of seventy-eight,
The harvest days were o'er;
To leisure bent in youthful joy
I lingered on the shore.

Toward the hungry East
From the prairies of the West
White-winged fleets were dancing
The skyline water's crest.

The raw and gusty weather
Had lasted many-a-day
And the sailors in distress
Were tacking for the bay.

I saw a ship go down at sea
Off "Ludington-on-the-Lake"
It strewed its treasure on the deep
Like grain in the farmer's wake.

The raging sea was white with foam
For miles outside the strand
And combing billows came to shore
And crept far up the land.

The angry waters leaped on high
The winds bore down the main
At sixty miles an hour or more
It was a hurricane.

The ship had lost its rudder
And had listed in a trough
When two-score volunteers steamed out
To throw the cargo off.

Captain Caswell with his tug
No stouter heart than he
Convoyed the workers to the ship
Careening in the sea.

Then the moon went down
And the storm witch squalled
And landward and seaward
The fog-horn called

Till an eagle saw
In its piney nest
Dim light go out
In the inky West.

All through the watch with Newberg
The valiant crew had worked
The waves had washed the mizzen shrouds
But not a man had shirked.

When lo! a cry, "We're sinking"
Went ringing through the craft
Then sea nymphs danced upon the decks
And chattering sylvans laughed.

The mate had called for volunteers
To close the hatch below;
Jack Housel and his fearless sire
Outran the overflow.

'Twas Captain Jerry Simpson
Who manned that fated craft;
Good "Sockless Jerry Simpson,"
The bravest man afloat.

'Tis true he went to Congress
To command a "ship of state,"
But the way he manned the 'Rutter'
Made him already great.

He cheered the boys in the rigging
As his barge sank in the wave,
And the morning found them clinging
Above a watery grave.

There were boys out in the rigging
And mothers on the shore,
And God was in his Heavens
Above the tempest's roar.

How well do I remember
That time and time again
Lines were shot from booming mortars,
Falling short upon the main.

How life boats manned with sailors true
Were thrown back on the sand,
'Till it seemed as if the sea gods
Were fighting with the land.

How the heart fought with the waters
'Till the billows found a foe
That will live in future story
As long as the seas do flow.

How on the awful sunset,
When the city was in despair,
A Judge (Judge Haight) who looked thru nature
Planned a fleet to go out there.

To the capital of the Nation
The startling news had sped;
"Take out the tug brave Kendrick,"
A lightning message said.

"Throw me a line," spoke Sterling,
"With the Judge and Doc Dewar
I'll lash a scow on the lee of the wreck
And make the chances sure."

How that tug flew out the harbor,
Moving like a thing of life,
Towing a scow and life-boat
Out through the water's strife.

Young Morgan's at the helm on the life-boat,
McFay has the oar near its prow,
Costello's with Kendrick and Cummings,
Me-thinks I see them now.

Rising in the golden sunset,
Sinking as if for breath,
Living again by the sunken ship
To rob the wreck of death.

No pageant of the ocean grand
No deed where armies meet
On the land or in the Navy
Out-glows that gallant feat.

For a golden sun in a silver sea
Throws a halo o'er the spray,
Glorifying all our sailors
On the Lakes and in the Bay.

Then hurrah for the gallant tug,
For the hearts in the life-boat, too,
Braving old Neptune's yawning teeth
To rescue the 'Rutter's' crew.

For Sterling, Dewas, Shorts and Haight
Silhouetted against the sky,
Enshrined heroes of that day,
Your deeds will never die.

Great steamships ply and go
And "white wings" are no more,
For the sailor of ye' olden time
Is on the farther shore.

RAYMOND LOVEJOY FITCH

Raymond L. Fitch, an outstanding member of the family who lived in this present century was born November 11, 1893 at Decorah, Iowa. He was the son of Dr. Martin B. Fitch and Ingeborg (Isabelle) Fitch.

The writer is not in possession of the complete line of descent at the present time, suffice it to say we know definitely that his line dates from Thomas Fitch, who was a brother of Rev. James Fitch, so is of the Essex line.

Raymond Fitch received his education in the Decorah Public Schools, Valders Business College, and the University of Toledo, Ohio. He held both a bachelors and masters degree from the latter.

His father was keenly disappointed when Raymond refused to study medicine and refused to assist him in college. Raymond told the writer in a spirit of jest that he felt sure his refusal to become a doctor probably saved many lives.

Previous to the first world war, Raymond was with the U.S. Navy in China. After the U.S. entered the war, he came home and enlisted in the American Army. During the second war, Raymond acted as an inspector of mechanical army equipment for the U.S. government.

Raymond spent most of his life in Los Angeles, California. He at one time taught Metallurgy at the University of California in Los Angeles.

Mr. Fitch was mentioned in "Who's Who" several times and was given major attention in the book "Prominent Businessmen of Los Angeles."

He was a member of the "National Aeronautics Association", "Veterans Service League," "Society of Colonial Wars," "American Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers", "Welding Society of Los Angeles," "Allied Scientists of the World," and "Sons of the American Revolution."

Raymond was also the inventor of the "Ferriscope", and developer of a process for detecting flaws in steel. It is of interest to note the first such device produced was purchased by the gigantic trucking firm O.N.C. (Oregon Nevada and California).

He had also been president of the "Firan Company." At the time of his death, he was serving as metallurgical consultant for the "Christbarry Aircraft Corporation" of Los Angeles.

For many years Raymond contributed a column "Past and Present" to the Decorah Journal.

Raymond spent several years and contributed funds in family genealogical research. In the early nineteen sixties he had plans to publish a three volume history of the Fitch Family in America. But being dogged by ill health and other misfortune, he was unable to do so. Unfortunately the writer is not in possession of much of his records at the present time.

We do not have much concerning Raymond's private life. During his later years he suffered poor health and died May 20, 1968 while on a trip to his hometown. He was buried in Phelps Cemetery at Decorah, Iowa.

Raymond had one son lost in World War II.

The writer had the pleasure of visiting Raymond in North Hollywood in February 1968, and can attest to the many fine qualities he possessed. Truly his life was one spent in service to others.

Included herewith is a copy of the names and rank of the Fitch family who served in the American Revolution. Raymond L. Fitch prepared this list and gave it to the writer. We hope sometime to procure a complete copy of Raymond's genealogical records which includes the names of more than five thousand Fitches and two thousand who married Fitches.

WINCHESTER FITCH

Winchester Fitch was born in Ashtabula, Ohio on November 21, 1867. He attended Cornell University and graduated with a B.L. degree in 1888. On June 30, 1897, Winchester was married to Florence Lynette Hopper. She was the daughter of George Henry Hopper. It is of interest to note that Mr. Hopper was an assistant of John D. Rockefeller in the formation of the Standard Oil Company.

Winchester Fitch was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1894. Over the years he was a member of a number of societies including Ohio Society of Colonial Wars, New York Society Founders and Patriots, and New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.

We owe much to Mr. Fitch for his work in genealogical research. He spent more than forty years in this work and gathered a tremendous amount of notes which are invaluable to those of us who are interested in our ancestral background. He made many trips abroad and visited all the historical places of Fitch interest in England. In 1901, he published a pamphlet entitled 'Fitch Papers.'

On December 4, 1928, Winchester Fitch was elected the first president of the Fitch Family Association. Offices were in the Fitch Building, 138 Pearl Street, New York City. The Fitch Building housed the Fitch Publishing Co., Inc., of which John Knowles Fitch was president. The Fitch Association was organized for the purpose of publishing the "History of the Fitch Family 1400 to 1930" which was being compiled by Roscoe Conkling Fitch. The association was never registered and is not in operation at the present time.

In 1929 Mr. and Mrs. Fitch resided at 1040 Park Avenue, New York City.

FITCHES
in
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Compiled from official records
by
Raymond L. Fitch

1. Private Enlisted from Lebanon, Connecticut, 11
Abel Fitch. May, 1775, and served to 13 December,
6C-A6K 1775. He was in Captain James Clark's
Company and fought under General Put-
nam at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He later
served in the Albany, N.Y. County Militia.
References: "The Record of Connecticut
Men in the Military and Naval Services
During the Revolutionary War, 1775-
1783.", P. 56; "New York in the Revolution
as Colony and States", Vol. 1, P. 485.

2. Pvt. Abijah Served in Captain Seymour's Company,
Fitch, Jr. 9th Regiment of Militian from 25 October,
6C5G3D 1776, to 5 January, 1777. Reference: "The
Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc", Vol.
1, P. 485.

3. Captain Served under Colonel G. S. Silliman in the
Abraham 2nd Regiment of Continental Light Horse
Fitch. Cavalry after May, 1776. Reference: "The
6C-A6C5 Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol.
1, P. 443.

4. Sergeant Was a Sergeant in Captain Daniel Dew-
Ammi ey's Company, Lt. Col. O. Hosford's Regi-
Fitch. ment of Connecticut Troops, in September,
6C5J-A7 1778, and was sent to East Chester to join
Washington's Army. Reference: "The Re-
cord of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1,
P. 484. (He was a brother of Captain An-
drew. (6C5J-A8)

5. Private Served from 4 August, to 9 August, 1780,
Amos in Captain Peleg Peck's Company, Col-
Fitch. onel Thomas Carpeneter's Regiment. He
was a Minute Man and marched by order
of Colonel Slead from Swanzey, Mass., to
Tiverton, Rhode Island. Reference: "Massa-
chusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolu-
tionary War"., Vol. "F", P. 733.

6. Captain Andrew Fitch. 6C5J-A8 Enlisted as a Private under Captain James Clark at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April 1775, and served in the 3rd Regiment, 6th Company, under General Putnam at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He later served under Colonel Ward in the Battle of White Plains, N. Y. Still later he fought in the Battle of Trenton, New Jersey. On 1 January, 1777, he was commissioned Captain and assigned to the 4th Regiment which wintered with Washington at Valley Forge. In the winter of 1778-9, he again was with Washington at Morristown, New Jersey. He retired from service, 1 January, 1781, when the troops were consolidated. References: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 733; "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 15, 56, 109, 183, 321 and 386; "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783", P. 274.
7. Private Asa Fitch. 6C5J-A4A Enlisted 7, September, 1776, and served a series of short enlistments until 8 September, 1781. He served under Captain Isaac Sergeant, Light Horse Connecticut Regiment; with Captain Benajah Leffingwell, and with Captain Eaterman's Company. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in . . . etc.", Vol. 1 Pp. 497, 556, 579 and 620.
8. Sergeant Asa Fitch. 6C512G Enlisted at the age of 16 and was promoted to Sergeant in Captain A. Livingston's Company, Washington County, New York Militia. Asa later became a physician and was prominent in Salem, New York. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", see Muster Rolls of Captain Livingston's Company.

9. Sgt., Asa Fitch, Sr.
6C-A3H2 Enlisted 15 February, 1777, in Captain Ebenezer Cleveland's Company, Michael Jackson's Regiment. He was discharged, 1 June, 1778. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 733.

10. Surgeon's Mate
Asael Fitch.
6C1-1H7 Served in the 5th Connecticut Regiment under Colonel Waterbury, from May to December, 1775. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, P. 64; "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783", P. 228.

11. Lt.
Augustus Fitch.
6C2D2 Commissioned in May, 1776, and served under Captain Loomis, Major Backus's Battalion, until 30 October, 1776. Company was consolidated and he then served as Clerk. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .", Vol. 1, Pp. 444 and 479.

12. Sgt.
Articifer Benajah Fitch.
6C5G5 Served in the Continental Line from Preston Connecticut. His widow, Sarah Palmer Fitch, drew a pension for his services. Reference: "Pension Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers in Connecticut", P. 189; No. W21122, Widow's File.

13. Pvt.
Benjamin Fitch.
60512F Was one of four sons who were equipped by their father, Dr. Pelatiah Fitch, and sent to serve with the Colonial Troops. The sons served with their father in Colonel Webster's New York Regiment. Reference: Gravestone Inscription in old Salem Cemetery, Salem, New York.

14. Pvt.
Benjamin Fitch, III.
6C5G4C Enlisted from Gardnerstown, Massachusetts, 22 June, 1777, in the Continental Army. He served in the 2nd Lincoln Company, Colonel Joseph North's Regiment. Later he served in Captain John Lamont's

5th Company, Colonel Bradford's Regiment. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 733.

15. Private Caleb Fitch. Enlisted from Petersham, Massachusetts, 15 May, 1776, in Captain William Warner's Company, Josiah Whitney's Regiment, and served until 1 November, 1776. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 734.
16. Private Caleb Fitch. Enlisted from West Springfield, Massachusetts, in Captain Enoch Chapin's Company, Colonel Elish's Regiment. He was reported missing in action, 30 April, 1776. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 734.
17. Private Billa Fitch. Responded to the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, and served in Captain John Helm's Company, Colonel John Fellow's Regiment of Minute Men. He marched to Cambridge, Mass., and served 17 days on the alarm. He later enlisted in the Continental Army and served in Captain William King's 1st Company, 8th Regiment, from Sheffield, Mass. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 733.
18. Private Bille Fitch. Enlisted, 19 September, 1777, and served under Captain Roswell Downing, Colonel John Asjley's "Berkshire County Regiment", until 19 October, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 733.

19. Private Billy Fitch. Served in Captain Noble's Company, John Brown's Regiment, from 29 June, to 21 October, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 733.
20. Private Caleb Fitch. Enlisted in the Continental Army for 3 years, 6 January, 1781. He gave as his home, Hampshire County, Massachusetts. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 734.
21. Private Caleb Fitch. Enlisted at Boston, Mass., 4 April, 1782, for a period of 3 years. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 734.
22. Private Caleb Fitch. Jr. 6C-A6L2 Enlisted in Connecticut, 15 January, 1777, for a 3-year period. He served in Captain Elderkin's Company. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol. 1, P. 222.
23. Private Caleb Fitch. Enlisted in the Continental Army at Keebe, New Hampshire, 17 May, 1782. for a period of 3 years. Reference: "State of New Hampshire Rolls of Soldiers in the Revolutionary Army", Vol 3, Pp. 286, 510 and 702.
24. Private Caleb Fitch. Served from 1 October, to 24 November, 1778, in Captain Joseph Brigg's Company of Militia. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Soldiers of the Revolutionary Army", P. 88.
25. Private Caleb Fitch. Served in the 1st Regiment, New York Continental Line, under Colonel Goose Van Schaick. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 21.

NOTE

Fifteen Caleb Fitches were found on the various rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers. As finger-printing was not in use, and other methods of identification, it is nearly impossible to identify each one. As many soldiers served a series of short enlistments, and often under different commands, duplication could be very easy. Because of this possibility of duplication (7) seven Caleb Fitches have been omitted from this list. The first 4 Caleb Fitches shown here (Numbers 14, 15, 19 & 20) are all shown on the same page (734) of "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", it is quite probable they are separate individuals. This publication was prepared and published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and was printed by Wright and Potter, State Printers, Boston, Mass., 1899.

26. Private He was one of the four sons outfitted by
Chester his father Pelatiah Fitch, and enlisted with
Fitch. his father and brothers as a group in Web-
6C512C ster's New York Regiment. References:
 "Company Rolls of Revolutionary War
 Soldiers in New York", "Gravestone In-
 scriptions of Old Cemetery, Salem, New
 York."
27. Corporal The First name of this soldier is obliterated
 ... ? Fitch on the rolls of Connecticut soldiers. He en-
 listed from Kent, Connecticut, 22 February,
 1777, for the period of the War. Reference:
 "The Record of Connecticut Men in the
 Military and Naval Services During the
 Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1, P.
 361.
28. Corporal Served under Captain Clark in the 3rd
Cypron Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Colonel
Fitch. Sage Commanding. Fought in the Battle of
6C-A6C1DWhite Plains, 28 October, 1776. Was dis-

charged 25 December, 1776. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . etc", Vol. 1, P. 399.

29. Captain Daniel Fitch. 6C5G4A Enlisted as a Private, 30 May, 1777, and served with Captain Gregory of the 9th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, from 29 October, to 29 December, 1777. He later served in Captain Heart's Company at the Siege of Yorktown, 1781. He was commissioned Captain in 1781. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . etc". Vol. 1, Pp. 184, 186, 321 & 634. "D. A. R. Lineage" No. 149125: "Pawlet, Vermont, for 100 Years", P. 188.
30. Corporal Daniel Fitch. 6C1-1C1L Enlisted as a Private in Captain Bacon's Company from Simsbury, Connecticut. Although unable to find a record of his dates of service, he received a pension in 1818 for his services. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services . .etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 184, 186, 321 & 634.
31. Private Daniel Fitch. 6C-A3D1A Served with Morgan's Riflemen, and also in the 1st Regiment and 10th Regiment, Continental Line. Reference: "Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution", P. 274.
32. Private Darius Fitch. 6C516B Served in Captain Hungerford's Company of New London and Groton, Connecticut, from 14 November, 1780, to 12 January, 1781. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . etc.", Vol. 1, P. 580.
33. Private David Fitch. 6C-A6B9 He responded to the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, from Bedford, Massachusetts, and served 2 days. References: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", Page 734.

34. Private Dyer Fitch. 6C-1J-A1B Served a series of short enlistments from 16 December, 1776, to 7 November, 1780. He served in Captain Amos Rathburn's Company, Colonel Simond's "Berkshire County Regiment". Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 734.
35. Lt. Ebenezer Fitch. 6C1-1H4B After serving as a Private at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, for 11 days, when he marched from Bedford to Cambridge, Mass., he enlisted in the Continental Army. After serving 3 months and 15 days he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in October, 1775. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 734.
36. Private Ebenezer Fitch, Jr. 6C1-1C3E Was captured by the British as a Prisoner of War and held aboard the Prison Ship "Jersey" in Long Island Sound where he died of disease and neglect in 1781. Reference: "A Christmas Reminder", Published by the Society of Old Brooklynites in 1888, Pp. 25-27.
37. Corporal Ebenezer Fitch. 9B3C Enlisted as a Private and served in Captain Fitch's Company of the 9th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, known as Colonel Baldwin's Independent Line Volunteers. He served in 1782-3. References: "D. A. R. Lineages", No. 21136, No. 120936; "Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution", (1899), Pp. 102-3 & 429.
38. Clerk Ebenezer Fitch. 6C1C2A Served at the Alarm at Newbury, Massachusetts, 8 March, 1781, under Captain Samuel McClure. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Soldiers in the Revolutionary Army", P. 341.

39. Private Enlisted in the Minute Men and served at
Ebenezer the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, in
Fitch. Israel Chapin's Company, Colonel John
6C2C3 Fellow's Regiment. He served 8 days and
was sent home 4 May, 1775. Reference:
"Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the
Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 735.

40. Sgt, Enlisted in the 4th Company under Cap-
Ebenezer tain Obadiah Johnson, 12 May, 1775, and
Fitch. served to 15 December, 1775. He fought
6C-A2D3 with General Putnam's Troops at the Battle
of Bunker Hill. He re-enlisted 25 April,
1777, and served to 16 December, 1778.
Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and
Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol.
"F", P. 734.

41. Colonel Served as a Colonel in the Revolutionary
Eleazer Army from Windom, Connecticut. Refer-
Fitch. ence: "Parkman Papers", Vol. VIII, Pp. 210
6C-A7-1B to 231; "New England Historical and Gen-
ealogical Register", Vol. 95, P. 19, No. 1759.

42. Private Served in Captain Marvin's Company of
Elijah Coast Guards, which was raised for the de-
Fitch. fense of Norwalk, Connecticut, 8 February,
10 B 1782. Reference: "Connecticut Historical
Society Publications", Vol. VIII, P. 217.

43. Private Served in the Albany County Militia (New
Elias York), 17th Regiment in 1775. Reference:
Fitch. "New York in the Revolution as Colony
6C-A6D-A3 and State", Vol. 1, P. 238.

44. Private Nathan Cady, who was married to Elijah's
Elijah sister Deborah, was ordered to appear for
Fitch. induction into the Continental Army. He
6C-A318 hired Elijah to take his place in the draft.

At the Battle of White Plains Elijah was captured by the British and incarcerated aboard a British Prison Ship in Long Island Sound. There he died of disease and neglect in 1781. References: Family Records of Elisha Fitch, father of Elijah; "Genealogy of the Fitch Family", by John G. Fitch, P. 57.

45. Private Elijah Fitch. 6C5G5A He was the eldest son of Benajah and Sarah (Sally) (Palmer) Fitch. According to family legend he enlisted in Preston County Militia with his brother Nathaniel and never returned from the War. Pension Records show that his brother Nathaniel's widow drew a pension, but unable to find a record of Elijah's service.
46. Private Elisha Fitch. 6C512B Served in the "Levies" under the Command of Colonel William Malcom, 1775. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 75.
47. Sgt. Elisha Fitch. 6C1-1C1E Served in Captain Levi Goodenough's Company of Rangers, Colonel Samuel Her- rick's Regiment, from 1777, to 3 September, 1778. He later served on the Northern Frontier in Captain John Stark's Company, Colonel Ira Allen's Regiment, in October 1780. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of the Revolutionary Army", Pp. 47 & 287.
48. Private Elisha Fitch. 5C511 Served under Captain Huntington in the 4th Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade. Was seriously wounded at Tuckho Hill on 15 September, 1776. Was sent to Stamford, Connecticut, for hospitalization where he died. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1. P. 75.

49. Private Elnathan Fitch.
A42¹/₄ Served three years, from 22 April, 1777, to 22 April, 1780, in Captain Parson's Company, 2nd Regiment, Continental Line. He fought in the Battle of White Plains, wintered with Washington's Troops at Valley Forge — 1777-8. He was in the Battle of Redding, and again wintered with Washington's troops, 1778-9, at Morristown, New Jersey. He later was assigned to patrol duty on the bank of the Hudson River. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 161 and 642; "1835 Pension Rolls of Chenango County, New York.", P. 125. He received a pension of \$96 per year which became effective, 29 July 1819.
50. Private Ephriam Fitch.
6C5J-A1D Served from 9 May, to 10 December, 1775, in Captain John Tyler's 2nd Company, 6th Regiment. He re-enlisted 27 December, 1777, at Hartford, Connecticut, and was killed in action in the Spring of 1778. Reference. "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc"., Vol. 1, Pp. 73 & 273.
51. Captain Ephriam Fitch.
6C-A6B4 Served interruptedly from 15 July, 1776 to 14 August, 1777. He first served in the 12th Company, "Berkshire County Militia". Was commissioned Captain, December, 1776, and served in the 4th Company, Colonel Benjamin Simond's Regiment at Ft. Ticonderoga. He also served in Fellow's Brigade, Colonel Ashley's Regiment. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 735.
52. Private Ezekiel Fitch.
6C-A6-1B Enlisted, 14 May, 1775, and served in the 4th Regiment under General Putnam at the Battle of Bunker Hill in the 6th Company, 3rd Regiment. Was discharged, 18 December, 1775. Reference. "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc"., Vol. 1, Pp. 56 & 597.

53. Marine
Ezekiel
Fitch, Jr.
6C-A6-1B2 Served aboard the frigate "Oliver Cromwell", whose Captain was Commander Timothy Parker. He served from 20 Dec., 1777, to September, 1778. Reference: "Connecticut Historical Publications", Vol. VIII., P. 149.
54. Private
Ezekiel
Fitch. Enlisted, 16 August, 1776, in Captain Hyde's Company, 1st Regiment of Militia, under Colonel Wolcott. Reference: "Connecticut Historical Society Publications", Vol. VIII, P. 149.
55. Seaman
Francis
Fitch.
6C1C2E2 Served as a Seaman aboard his father's sloop running the British blockade. Was captured along with his father Captain Peter Fitch, Sr., and his brother Timothy Fitch, and taken aboard the British notorious Prison Ship "Jersey" anchored in Long Island Sound. All three died of disease, starvation and neglect. The Nantucket (Mass.) Vital Records shows all three lost at sea, an obvious error. Reference: "A Christmas Reminder", Published in 1888 by The Society of Old Brooklynites. Pp. 25-27.
56. Ensign
Gerard
Fitch.
6C1-1C3B Served in Captain John McKintry's Company, 15th New York Regiment, during the Revolution. He is shown on the Muster Roll for September, 1776. Later he was appointed Quartermaster at Stockville, Massachusetts. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, See Muster Roll for the 15th New York Regiment. Additional information: Gerard was Quartermaster of the 15th Continental Infantry from, 1 January, to 31 December, 1776. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.",

Vol. "F", P. 735; "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783". P. 228.

57. Private Haynes Fitch. 11 Enlisted, 29 October, 1777, in Captain Gregory's Company, 9th Connecticut Militia, led by General Wooster. He served until 29 December, 1777. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783"., Vol. 1, P. 486.
58. Private Hezekiah Fitch, Sr. 9 B 7 Although no service record has been found for this man other records show that he was a Revolutionary War soldier. Reference: "Tombstone Inscriptions", Salisbury Connecticut; "History and Genealogies of Old Fairfield, Connecticut", Vol. 2, Part 1, P. 343; "D.A.R. Lineages", No. 45424 & No. 121721.
59. Private Hezekiah Fitch Enlisted 8 July, 1775, in the 2nd Company, 7th Regiment, under Colonel Charles Webb. He was discharged 19 December, 1775. He re-enlisted 14 July, 1776, in Captain Solomon Chase's Company, Colonel Jonathan Chase's Regiment, New Hampshire Militia, and served to 16 December 1776. References: "State of New Hampshire Rolls of the Revolutionary Army"; "The Record of Connecticut Men ... etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 80, 85 & 103.
60. Seaman Jabez Gale Fitch. 6C1-1H4F Served briefly as a Seaman on an armed Frigate during the Revolution. After the war he enlisted in the New York Militia and was commissioned Colonel. Reference: "D. A. R. Grave Marker Report", 1952-3, P. 124.

61. Captain Jabez Fitch.
6C-A6-1C1 Enlisted as a Private in Captain Hobby's Company, 9th Regiment, under General Wooster. "Was discharged Corporal, 11 January, 1777. Re-enlisted and served through December, 1780, in Colonel Will's Regiment. He then organized and drilled a company of volunteers and was commissioned Captain in command of the company. He served as such until 1 March, 1783. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol 1, Pp. 491, 584 & 615.
62. Private Ichabod Fitch, Jr.
6C-A7-1D Enlisted 8 May, 1775, in the 6th Company, 3rd Regiment under the command of General Putnam. He fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He was discharged 1 November, 1775. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol 1, P. 56.
63. Private Jabez Fitch.
6C-A3H1 Although unable to find the service record of this man he is listed on Cemetery Records as a Revolutionary War Soldier. Reference: "Revolutionary Soldiers of Chautauqua, New York." (1925), Pp. 15 & 16.
64. Captain Jabez Fitch, Jr.
6C516 Marched with the Minute Men at the Lexington Alarm. He had previously served in the Continental Army a series of enlistments beginning in 1757. He kept a Diary for 40 years which was found many years later and provided much valuable historical data. A portion of this "diary" was published in serial form in the "Mayflower Descendant". On 6 July, 1775, he was commissioned 1st Lieutenant and served in the 8th Company, 8th Regiment, under Colonel Huntington. In 1776, he was captured by the British and confined aboard one of the British Prison Ships, anchored in Willabout Bay, Long Island Sound. After 18 months

he was released or escaped and returned to Long Island where he conducted a relentless campaign against the Tory 5th columnists. He was promoted to Captain and served to the end of the war. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 18, 89, 101 & 628. "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783", P. 228; Jabez Fitch's "Martyrs of the Revolution."

NOTE:

Two additional Jabez Fitches are shown in other references as being Revolutionary War Soldiers, but verification of their services have not been found in official files. They are as follows:

Major John Fitch (9B3A) is shown in "The Compendium of American Genealogy", Vol. 2, P. 270. He was born 11 September, 1751, in Norwalk, Connecticut, and died 5 January, 1829. He was married 29 May, 1780, (see "Early Conn. Marriages", Book 4, P. 89) and his two brothers, Ebenezer Jr. and Giles, both served as soldiers during the Revolution.

Colonel Jabez Fitch (6C1-1H4F)?, who is shown in the D. A. R. Grave Reports, 1940-41, as born in 1761, and died 28 June, 1848. It is quite probable that this man is No. 60 above, Seaman Jabez Gale Fitch. It is unlikely that due to his youth he was a Colonel during the Revolution.

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| 65. Private
James
Fitch.
6C1-1B2C | Enlisted in the 4th Company, 4th Regiment, New York Line, and served from 1 May, 1779, to 31 December, 1779. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York", (The Revolution), Vol. 1, P. 214. |
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66. Private James Fitch. 6C1-1C6D Enlisted in Vermont in Captain John Spafford's Company, Colonel Gideon Warren's Regiment. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers", Pp. 165, 170 & 188.
67. Private James Fitch. 6C-A6B1E Enlisted in Connecticut in Colonel Henan Swift's 7th Connecticut Regiment. He served from 9 June, to 13 December, 1780. He re-enlisted 5 April, 1781, and served to 30 July, 1782. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 227 & 569.
68. Private James Fitch. 6C1C2D Enlisted from Northfield, Mass., in Captain Eliakim Smith's Company, Colonel Jonathan Ward's Regiment, 15 June, and served to 14 September, 1775. He later served in Lt. Col. William's Regiment, from 10 July, to 12 August, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 735.
69. Private James Fitch. 6C-A6E-A6 Was taken prisoner of war and confined by the British aboard one of their infamous Prison Ships in Long Island sound. He was aboard the same vessel as Captain (then Lt.) Jabez Fitch, Jr. (6C516). A petition for his release by an exchange of prisoners was signed 12 August, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 735.
70. Private James Paine Fitch. 6C1-1C1K Served with the Connecticut Troops. He was killed at the Battle of Monmouth, 28 June, 1778, at the age of 20. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-83", Vol. 1, Pp. 227 & 569.

71. Private James Fitch, Jr.
10A Enlisted 29 October, 1777, in Captain Gregory's Company, 9th Regiment, along with his son James III and his brother Haynes Fitch. He was discharged 29, December, 1777 Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men. . . etc.", Vol. 1, P. 486.

72. Private James Fitch, III.
10A3 Served in Captain Gregory's Company, 9th Regiment, from 12 August, to 11 September, 1776. He re-enlisted in the same company on 11 October, 1777, and served until 11 January, 1778. Reference the same as for 10A above.

73. Private James Fitch.
6C-A3K Although nearly 64 years old (born 24 July, 1711.) he served at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, coming from Coventry, Connecticut. Reference: "The Genealogy of the Fitch Family", by John G. Fitch, P. 36.* see foot note.

74. "Maj." James Fitch. Served with the Vermont Troops during the Revolution. The title 'Major' was perhaps honorary and was conferred by townspeople later in life. Reference: Family tradition and records of Vermont Soldiers in the Revolution.

75. Seaman Jedediah Fitch.
6C1C4L Records of British Prisoners of War show that Jedediah was a prisoner aboard the British Prison Ship "Jersey" having been captured when the sloop he was on was taken by a British Frigate of War. Apparently he survived the harsh treatment and neglect during 1781-2, for he later died aboard the ship "Reaper" at sea. Reference: "A Christmas Reminder", published by The Society of Old Brooklynites, in 1888, Pp. 25-27.

Note. Additional Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . .etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 90 & 384.

76. Private Jeremiah, III.
6C-A3F-A2 Served with Captain John Moore, Bedford County Militia, at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775. He served 4 days. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 735.
77. Private Jesse Fitch.
6C-A3J2 Marched from the town of Windham, Connecticut, at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, and served twenty-eight days. He re-enlisted 25 May, in the 4th Regiment, and served until 20 December, 1775. He again enlisted in the Minute Men and served under Captain Wolcott (East Windsor) during the months of July and August, 1776. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, P. 526.
78. Private Jesse Fitch.
6C-A3K5 Although this man's service record has not been found he served with the Connecticut Troops during the Revolution. Reference: "Connecticut Pension Rolls of the American Revolution", P. 89, Pension No. 510668; "1835 Pension Rolls of Wilmington, Vermont", P. 138.
79. Private Jesse Fitch.
6C-A3H7 Served with Captain John Ripley's 10th Company, 8th Regiment, from 10 July, to 17 December, 1775. He then served in Captain Well's Company, Wolcott's Regiment, from December, 1775, to February, 1776. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 90 & 384.
80. Private Jiles Fitch.
(also Giles)
9B3E Served in Captain Marvin's Company of Coast Guard from 1 March, 1782, to 20 August, 1782. Reference: "Connecticut Historical Society Collections", Vol VIII, P. 218.
81. Private John Fitch.
7B1B3 Served in Albany County (New York) Militia, Captain Collon's Company, Colonel Jacobus Van Schoonhoven's Regiment. References: "New York in the Revolution as

Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 120; "Archives of the State of New York", "The Revolution", Vol. 1, P. 372.

82. Lt. John Buel Fitch.
6G2D5 Served in the Militia of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, during the year 1782. References: "Pennsylvania Archives—Revolutionary Soldiers", 5th Series, Vol. IV, Pp. 436 & 741; 6th Series, Vol. II, P. 355. This man was the inventor of the steamboat.

83. Private John Fitch.
6C-A3F-A5 Born 20 December, 1754, at Coventry, Connecticut, served with Connecticut troops during the Revolution and drew a pension for his services. Reference: Hemingway's "Vermont Historical Gazeteer", Vol. 1, Pp. 815, 819 & 825.

84. Private John Fitch.
6C-A6E-A5 Marched on the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, from Bradford, Mass., and served 4 days. Joined Captain Ingersoll's Company, David Brewer's 9th Regiment, and served from 22 May, to 7 August, 1775. He later served in Captain Ephriam Fitch's Company, Colonel Hopkin's Regiment, from 15 July, to 3 August, 1776. He later served from 29 June, to 29 August, 1779. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 735.

85. Captain John Fitch.
6C5J-A1A Was a Sergeant in Captain Moses Steven's Company of Infantry. He enlisted in 1775 and served until 1777. He was then made Commissary with the rank of Captain, by Deputy Commissary-General. (One reference claims he was made Commissary-General—probably an error). References: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the

Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War." Vol. 1, Pp. 143, 430 & 605; "Onandaga's Revolutionary Soldiers", (Onandaga, New York), 1840 Pension List, Kirkland, New York, P. 736.

86. Seaman John Fitch. After service as a Cabin Boy, he enlisted as a Seaman and served on the State Sloop "Winthrop", under command of Captain George Little. He served from 3 October, to 25 Novembred, 1782. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", Page 736.
87. Private Jonathan Fitch. 6C1-1B6A Served with Ethan Allen's "Green Mountain Boys" Regiment at Quebec, Canada, in 1776. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 61.
88. Private Jonathan Fitch. Served with Captain Enos Parker's Company, Colonel Jacob Gerrish's Regiment of Guards, from 11 July, 1778, to 1 January, 1779. He was stationed at Springfield, Mass., to guard stores. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War," Vol. "F", P. 736.
89. Colonel Jonathan Fitch. 9B2 He was the son of ex-governor Thomas Fitch V, and served as Colonel of the 2nd Regiment of Connecticut Militia. At the request of the Governor he resigned his commission to serve as State Commissary. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 430 & 432.
90. Private Jonathan Fitch, Jr. 6C-A6B1B Served outside Quebec, Canada, during February, 1776. He was in Captain Cochran's Company, Major Brown's Detachment. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of the Revolutionary Army", Pp. 656 & 832.

91. Corp.
Jonathan
Root
Fitch.
6C-A6B4B

Served with Captain Ephriam Fitch, Benjamin Simond's "Berkshire County Militia", from 16 December, 1776 to 23 October, 1781. His service was not continuous but consisted of a series of short enlistments. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 736.
92. Lieutenant
Joseph
Fitch.
6C-A6E-A7

Served as 2nd Lt. in the 2nd N.Y. Regiment from 22 June, 1775, to January 1776. On 28 February, 1776, he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and served in Captain Woodward's Company of Albany County (N. Y.) Militia. References: "Historical Record of Officers . . .", P. 228, "Archives of the State of New York — The Revolution", Vol. 1, Pp. 77, 265 & 528.
93. Private
Joseph
Fitch.
7B1B10

Enlisted from Salisbury, Connecticut, on 30, May, 1777 and served for nearly five years with Captain Kirkland. He was discharged 1 March, 1782. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1, Pp. 210 & 339.
94. Corporal
Joseph
Fitch.
6C-A414

Later to be known as "Deacon" Joseph, served a series of short enlistments beginning 12 April, 1775, and ending 20 August, 1777. He saw service at Ticonderoga, Ft. Edward, and at Bennington, Vermont. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War." Vol. "F", P. 736.
95. Captain
Joseph
Fitch.
7B1B9

He was master of the Sloop "Shark" which ran the British Blockade and also carried Continental troops and refugees from Long Island to Connecticut when the British

overran Long Island. Reference: "The Refugees in 1776, from Long Island to Connecticut", P. 243.

96. Ensign Joseph Fitch.
6G2D1 Enlisted as a Private in Captain Talbert's Company, 2nd Pennsylvania Regiment, and served after 12 November, 1776. He re-enlisted 1 January, 1777, and served in Captain Marshall's Company until July, 1778. He later served in 2nd Company, 5th Battalion, Philadelphia Militia. He was Commissioned 3 September, 1787. References: "Pennsylvania Archives—Revolutionary Soldiers", 5th Series, Vol. II, Pp. 871 & 901; 6th Series, Vol. III, Pp. 1152 & 1212.
97. Private Joseph Fitch.
6C5G4B Served in Captain Stark's Company, Ira Allen's Regiment at two Alarms, Skeensborough & Ticonderoga, 1 April, to 25 October, 1780. He also served in Captain Zadock Everett's Company, same regiment. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers", Pp. 177, 288 & 453.
98. Private Josiah Fitch.
6C-A315 Responded to the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, marching from Lebanon, Connecticut, to the defense of Boston. He served three days on the Alarm under Captain Daniel Tilden. Reference: "The Record of Conn. Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, P. 15.
99. Private Lemuel Fitch
6C6G4F Served in Benajah Leffingwell's Company and also in Captain Bray's Company in 1777. Reference: "American State Papers", Class 9 — Claims; "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc." Vol. 1, P. 620.

100. Dr. Served as a Private during the Revolution
Lemuel in Connecticut troops. He later became a
Fitch. doctor and drew a pension for his war
6C-A312 services. Reference: "1835 Pension Rolls of
Revolutionary War Soldiers of Vermont",
(Windham County).
101. Drummer Enlisted as a Drummer Boy in the 10th
Luther Company, 8th Regiment, Continental Line,
Fitch. 10 July, 1775, and served to 17 December,
6C1-1B5J 1775. After his discharge he was a Pri-
vateer aboard the vessel of his brother,
Captain Nathaniel Fitch, who was Mas-
ter. The vessel ran blockade and carried
refugees and supplies. Luther drew a
pension for service as a Drummer Boy.
Reference: "The Record of Connecticut
Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, Pp. 60 & 645; "Pen-
sion Records of Revolutionary War Sol-
diers of Connecticut", P. 189, Pension
No. S 16794.
102. Private Served in Lieutenant Carter's Company,
Mathew 9th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers,
Fitch. from 25 October, 1775, to 11 January,
7B1A-A4 1777. Reference: "The Record of Con-
necticut Men in the Military and Naval
Services During the Revolutionary War,
1775-1783", Vol. 1, P. 495.
103. Private Served under Colonel Green of Bedford,
Mathew Massachusetts, on and after 15 May, 1776.
Fitch. Length of Service and date of discharge
not shown in reference. Reference: "Mass-
achusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Rev-
olutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 736.
104. Private Though muster rolls show him as Nat.
Nat. his name was Nathan. He served in the
Fitch. Revolution in Colonel Starr's 1st Connecti-
6C5G7A cut Regiment. He later served in Captain

John Poor's Company, Colonel John Brown's Regiment, from 18 April, 1780, to 30 October, 1780. References: "D. A. R. Lineages", No. 65976 and No. 150025; "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 736.

105. Corporal Nathaniel Fitch.
6C5G5B Marched on the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, and served under Captain Benedict Arnold. Nathaniel re-enlisted 13 March, 1778, was promoted to Corporal, 1 October, 1778, and served until 20 July, 1780. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 18, 155 and 292: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 736.
106. Captain Nathaniel Fitch.
6C1-1B5D Owned a small sloop and ran the blockade carrying supplies and refugees. His younger brother Luther (6C1-1B5J) was one of his crew. He is on no muster roll and drew no pension as he was not a member of an armed service.
107. Private Nathaniel Fitch.
6C-A6-1C2 Served in the Connecticut Line during the Revolution and received a pension in New York State for his service. Reference: "1835 Pension Rolls of Revolutionary War Soldiers Residing in New York State." "D.A.R. Lineage" No. 48730.
108. Private Nathaniel Fitch.
6C-A316 This man is presumed to have served with the Connecticut troops during the Revolution. His gravestone designates him as a Revolutionary War Veteran. Reference: Gravestone inscription, Columbia Cemetery, Columbia, Tolland County, Connecticut.

109. Captain Nehemiah Fitch.
6C-A6D-A2 Served in the 4th Company, 17th Regiment, King's District Militia. Dates of service and engagements (if any) are not shown in reference. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York, 'The Revolution'", Vol. 1, P. 274.
110. Private Paul Fitch.
6C1D5C Enlisted from Rindge, New Hampshire, 28 June, 1777, and served in Captain Salmon Stone's Company, Colonel Heald's Detachment, which marched to reinforce the garrison at Ft. Ticonderoga. He served 14 days. References: "D. A. R. Lineages", No. 18796; "New Hampshire in the Revolution", Vol. 2, P. 97.
111. Private Pelatiah Fitch. Served in Captain Ebenezer Strong's Company, Colonel Spear's Regiment, Hampshire County Militia, from 17 August, to 20 November, 1781. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
112. Lt. Pelatiah Fitch.
6C512 His name is spelled Pelitah on the Rolls. He was commissioned 18 August, 1778, and served in the Cumberland County Militia, New York State. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York, 'The Revolution'", Vol. 1, P. 195. Pelatiah was a Physician and practiced medicine for 28 years in Norwich and Groton, Conn. He equipped his four sons, Chester, Pelatiah, Jr., Benjamin and Asa, with clothing and arms and entered service with them.
113. Private Pelatiah Fitch, Jr. Enlisted in Captain Waterman's Company, 20th Regiment, Connecticut Troops. He is shown on the Company Rolls. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1. P. 588.

114. Private Pelatiah Fitch, Jr.
6C512D Enlisted with the County Militia of Charlotte County, N. Y. His father outfitted him along with his brothers in clothing and arms. His enlistment began in 1775. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 239. He became a physician after the war.
115. Lt. Pelatiah Fitch. He was commissioned, 26 February, 1776, in the Southern Regiment of Vermont. He reported from Hallifax County. His commission was 1st Lieutenant. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers — List of Commissions."
116. Capt. Peter Fitch, Sr.
6C1C2E Peter was the Master of a sailing vessel out of Nantuket Island and engaged in running the British Blockade. He, along with his two sons, Timothy and Francis, became prisoners of the British when their vessel was captured. The Nantucky Vital Records show them as "lost at sea", however they were kept aboard the notorious British Ship "Jersey" in Long Island Sound where all three died of starvation, neglect and disease. Reference: "A Christmas Reminder", published by The Society of Old Brooklynites, 1888, Pages 25-27.
117. Corporal Prentice Fitch.
6C1-1C6B Served in the 2nd Regiment, Continental Line, from 1 January, to 21 December, 1781. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1, P. 323.
118. Private Richard Fitch.
6C-A3K2 Served in Captain J. Well's Company, State Regiment, at Boston, from January to March, 1776. He later served with Captain Asa Drusy, Colonel Turner's Regiment,

from 13 July, to 30 November, 1781. References: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc.", Vol. 1, P. 384; "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War.", Vol. "F", P. 737.

119. Private Served under Captain Samuel McClure at
 Roger Dresden, on an Alarm from Newbury, 8
 Fitch March, 1781. Reference: "State of Vermont
 6C1-1C3F Rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers", P. 241.

120. Private Enlisted 17 December, 1778, in Captain
 Rosewell Josiah Bissell's Company, Colonel Levi's
 Fitch. Regiment, Connecticut Line. He was cap-
 6C-A3H1A tured along with Colonel Wells during the
 fighting near Horseneck, New York, 16 De-
 cember, 1780. References: "The Record of
 Connecticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, P. 630;
 "Revolutionary Soldiers of Chautauqua
 County, New York", (1925), Pp. 15 and 16.

121. Private Served in the New York State Militia dur-
 Rosewell ing the Revolution. Dates of service and
 White engagements not known. References: "1835
 Fitch. Pension Rolls of Chautauqua County, New
 6C-A3K2A York. Page 281; "1840 Pension Census of
 Pomfret, Chautauqua County, New York";
 "D. A. R. Lineages", No. 89118, No. 128515,
 and No. 137671.

122. Quarter- Enlisted as a Private in the 4th Company
 master of the Continental Line, 11 May, 1775, and
 Sergeant served to 15 December, 1776. He re-en-
 Rufus listed 20 February, 1777, in Colonel Tal-
 Fitch. cott's Regiment and was promoted to
 6C1-1C1H Quartermaster Sergeant, 24 July, 1771. Ref-
 erence and Note: "The Record of Con-
 necticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, Pp. 55, 169
 and 624: Rufus drew a Pension for his
 services of \$90 per year, Pension became

effective, 29 July, 1818. In 1835, his Pension was transferred from Pennsylvania to Chautauqua County, New York. He was 80 years old at the time of the Pension transfer.

123. Private
Russell
Fitch. Served in Captain Aaron Coe's Colonel John Mosely's Regiment, Hampshire County Militia, from 21 September, to 14 October, 1777. He marched under orders of General Gates to reinforce the Northern Army Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", Page 737.
124. Private
Samuel
Fitch. Served a series of short enlistments, beginning 14 July, 1777, and extending until 23 October, 1781. He served in the following:
Captain Poor's Company, Colonel Ashley's Regiment, Captain Spier's Company, Colonel Ashley's Regiment, and the 10th Regiment.
Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
125. Private
Samuel
Fitch.
6C1-1B2D Served in Captain Aaron Rowley's Company, Colonel John Brown's Regiment, from 5 September, to 29 September, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
126. Private
Samuel
Fitch. Enlisted in the 4th Company of Continentals, 11 May, 1775, and served to 15 December, 1775. He re-enlisted 29 January, 1776, and was taken prisoner at The Cedars, Canada, 19 May, 1776, and was held prisoner for the duration of the War. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men

. . . etc", Vol. 1, P. 55. One genealogist claims that Samuel's five brothers; Jeremiah, John, Mathew, Patty and Moses, were all Revolutionary Soldiers. Unable to verify this in reliable source references.

127. Private Samuel Fitch. 6C1-1J-A1 Enlisted in Ulster County Militia, 3rd New York Regiment, under Colonels Levi Pawline and John Cantine, in 1777. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775 - 1783", Vol.1, P. 196.
128. Private Samuel Fitch. Enlisted from Vermont, 5 October, 1775, in Captain Josiah Russell's Company of Rangers. He fought with Colonel Jonathan Chase's Regiment at Ticonderoga, 27 June to 4 July, 1777. He also served in Captain Josiah Hendee's Company, Colonel David Hobart's Regiment of Militia, from 23 July, to 25 September, 1777. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary Soldiers", Vol. 1, P. 384, Vol. 2, P. 39.
129. Private Samuel Fitch. Served in Captain John King's Company, Colonel Ashley's Regiment, from 21 July, to 15 August, 1777. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
130. Sergeant Samuel Fitch, Jr. 9A3 Although holding a commission as Lieutenant in the Colonial Army, he enlisted as a Sergeant in Captain Obadiah Johnson's Company of Minute Men. He marched at the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, and served at the siege of Boston. Reference: "Archives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts", Vol. XI, P. 182; "D. A. R. Lineages", No. 62233, and No. 10382.

131. Private Samuel Fitch, Jr.
6F2-1C8 Although this man had served as a Private in Captain Hand's Company, Colonel Talcott's Regiment, in 1776, he had previously served in Captain Nathaniel's 2nd Company, 7th Regiment, on Expedition to Fort William Henry, 1745, during the French and Indian War. References: "History of Guilford, Connecticut", Pp. 423 and 448; "Putnam's Monthly Historical Magazine", Vol. 3, P. 245.
132. Private Seymour Fitch.
9B3D3 Served in Lieutenant Carter's Company, 9th Regiment of Militia, from 25 October, 1776, to 25 January, 1777. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . etc", Vol. 1, P. 485.
133. Private Silas Fitch.
6C5I1B Served in Captain Lathrop's Company, Major Backus' Regiment of Light Horse, from 4 September, to 2 November, 1776. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . in the Revolution", Vol. 1, P. 479.
134. Private Simon Fitch.
6C-A7-1D1 Served in the 2nd Regiment of Light Horse, Connecticut Line, under Captain Dan Throop. Was discharged, 15 January, 1779. (Date of enlistment not shown) Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men . . . in the Revolution", Vol. 1, p. 556.
135. Lt. Stephen Fitch, Jr.
6C-A3H4 Served as a Private at the Lexington Alarm, in Ebenezer Webber's Company of Minute Men. Due to the distance he had to travel he arrived in the morning of April 20, 1775. 31 May, 1775, he was commissioned Ensign. In 1776, he was promoted to Lieutenant and served in Cody's Battalion on the expedition to Canada, January, through June, 1776. References: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Rev-

olutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737; "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775 - 1783", P. 228.

136. Private
Stephen
Fitch
10B3
Served in the 10th Company, 8th Regiment, Continental line, from 14 July, to 17 December, 1775. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men - - etc", Vol. 1, P. 90.
137. Lt.
Stephen
Fitch
6C-A3H
Enlisted as a Private, 20 July, 1777, was Commissioned Lieutenant, 15 August, 1777. He marched with the expedition to reinforce the Army at Bennington, Vermont, under the command of General Stark. He returned by way of Northampton with Prisoners of War from Bennington. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F". P. 737.
138. Captain
Theophilus
Fitch, Jr.
7B1B-A8
Commanded the schooner "Tarter", which carried 4 guns and a crew of 20 men. The "Tarter" was a Privateer and ran blockades with supplies for the Continental Army. She operated from 1775 to 1783. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men—etc", Vol. 1, P. 606.
139. Quarter-
master
Thaddeus
Fitch
6C-A3D1B
Served with Captain Josiah Crosby, Colonel James's Regiment, from 23 April, to 1 August, 1775. He later served with Captain Stone in Lt. Colonel Heald's Detachment at Ticonderoga, 28 June, to 12 July, 1777. He also served in Colonel Nichols's Regiment from 18 July, to 27 September, 1777. Was discharged in Rhode Island, 28 August, 1778. Reference: "History of New Hampshire in the Revolution", Vol. 1, Pp. 102 and 207.

140. Seaman Theophilus Fitch
6C1-106 Served aboard the ill-fated Frigate "CONFEDERACY", which was launched near Norwich, Connecticut, in 1778. On 20 October, 1779, she sailed for France from Philadelphia. Encountering severe storms in the Atlantic she lost her masts and rigging and was forced to seek shelter in the port of Martinique. A year later when her refitting was complete she again set sail for France. Encountering a British Man-o-War she was forced to surrender and was taken to a European port as a prize. None of her crew (including Theophilus) ever returned. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War — 1775-1783", Vol. 1, P. 601. NOTE: Some references refer to this man as "Captain".
141. Colonel Thomas Fitch, VI.
9B1 Called "Yankee Doodle Colonel", was a Colonel in the Continental Army when the Revolution started. Records are vague as to the campaigns in which he served as well as the units with which he served. Reference: Jacobus's "History and Genealogies of Old Fairfield (Conn.)", Vol. II, Pp. 343 and 467; "Cemetery Inscriptions", Norwalk, Conn., P. 23; "History of the Fitch Family", by Roscoe C. Fitch, Vol. 1, P. 140.
142. Private Thomas Fitch Enlisted at the age of 20, 1 March, 1776, and served a series of short enlistments extending to August, 1782. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
143. Private Thomas Fitch Served two short enlistments in the Coast Patrol, one in 1777, the other in 1781. Reference: "D.A.R. Lineages", No. 28251.

144. Private Thomas Fitch Enlisted from Westford, Massachusetts, 17 September, 1777, and served 3 years under Captain Pelatiah Fletcher, Colonel Jonathan Reed's Regiment. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 737.
145. Private Thomas Fitch 6F2-1C5 (?) Enlisted from Connecticut, 26 February, 1777, and served in Captain Wylly's Company, 3rd Regiment, Connecticut Line. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol, 1, Pp. 173 and 185.
146. Seaman Thomas Fitch Served aboard the Marine Sloop "ENTERPRISE", commanded by Captain John Prout Sloan. He served from 8 May, to 1 July, 1775. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 738.
147. Corporal Thomas Fitch Served in Captain Luke Hitchcock's Company, Colonel Joseph Vose's 1st Regiment, in 1782. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War." Vol. "F", P. 742.
148. Private Timothy Fitch 9B6 Served from 14 July, to 14 August, 1775, in Captain Oliver Colburn's Company of Minute Men, Colonel Benedict Arnold's Regiment. Timothy reenlisted 10 September, 1776, and served to 7 December, 1776. He again reenlisted on 4 July, 1778, and served until 1 January, 1779. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 738.
149. Seaman Timothy Fitch 6C1C2E1 Served as a Seaman aboard his father's blockade-running schooner which was captured by the British in 1780. Timothy, his brother Francis, and his father Peter Jr.,

were imprisoned aboard a British Prison Ship in Long Island Sound, there all three died of disease and neglect in 1781. The Nantucket Vital Records show these three lost at sea, apparently the town's people were unaware of their capture. Reference: "A Christmas Reminder", Published by The Society of Old Brooklynites, 1888. Pp. 25-27.

150. Private
Walter
Fitch
6C5J-A4B Served from 21 July, to 27 August, 1779, in Captain Benjamin Bonney's Company, Colonel Elisha Porter's Regiment of Hampshire County, Massachusetts. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 738.
151. Private
William
Fitch Served from 21 July, to 15 August, 1777, in Captain John King's Company, Colonel Ashley's Berkshire County Regiment. He later served in Captain Polheimer's Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Establishment. Also in Captain Anderson's Company, 4th Battalion, 2nd Establishment; and lastly in the Militia. References: "Massachusetts Soldiers of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 738; "Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War", P. 192.
152. Private
William
Fitch
6C1-1H3B Although designated as "Private" in some records, this man served at sea. Date of enlistment and extent of his service not recorded. Reference: "Pension Records of Revolutionary Soldiers in Connecticut", P. 189, (Widow's Pension W 16880).
153. Private
William
Fitch
6C1-1C1G Manuscripts in the New York Comptroller's Office show this man was in military service during the Revolutionary War, however, his name has not been found on

the Rolls of regular Army units or the Militia. It is assumed he served in a voluntary capacity. Reference: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 270.

154. Captain William Fitch 6C-A6E-A1 Enlisted as a Private at the Alarms at Skeesborough and Ticonderoga, and served in Captain Stack's Company, Ira Allen's Regiment. On 28 July, 1775, having raised and drilled a company of recruits, he was commissioned Captain and served in that capacity throughout the war. Reference: "The State of Vermont Rolls of the Revolutionary Army", Pp. 176, 683, 777, 783, 784, 606 and 815.
155. Captain William Fitch 6C1-1C1 Was chosen by his Company to act as Captain, 27 July, 1775. His commission was approved by General Philip Schyler, 31 July, 1775. He served under Ethan Allen with the Green Mountain Boys Regiment until 1778. References: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State", Vol. 1, P. 31; "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783", P. 228.
156. Gunner William Fitch Served in Captain Thomas Proctor's Company of Artillery, organized, 27 October, 1775. He fought at the Battle of Princeton and later served with the 2nd Battalion under Colonel Evan Evans. Was discharged 6 October, 1778. References: "Pennsylvania Archives, Revolutionary Soldiers", Series V, Vol. III, P. 249, and Vol. V, P. 519.
158. Private William Fitch 10B6 Served in the Connecticut Militia during the Revolution and drew a Pension for his services until his death. References: "Pension Records of Revolutionary Soldiers in

New York". After his death his widow drew a Widow's Pension. "D.A.R. Lineages", No. 61831.

159. Private
Yore
Fitch Served with the New York troops in Captain Conklin's Company, Colonel Graham's Regiment. Dates of service not shown in reference. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York — The Revolution", Vol. 1, P. 372.
160. Private
Zabdiel
Fitch Enlisted 27 April, 1775, and served until 2 June, 1775, in Captain Thomas Foster's Company, Colonel Gridley's Artillery Regiment. Records show that he was confined to the Guard House for refusing to obey an order of a superior. He is claimed to have said he would stay in the Guard House rather than obey that order — records fail to show what 'that order' was. He was returned to duty the next day. After discharge he reenlisted and served eight months. He enlisted for a third time, 26 July, 1780, in Captain Alexander Hogdon's Company, Ebenezer Thayer's Suffolk County Regiment, and served until 30 October, 1780. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors —", Vol. "F", P. 738-9.
161. Captain
Zachariah
Fitch Served as 1st Lieutenant in Captain Henry Farwell's Company of Minute Men, under Colonel Prescott. He marched on the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775. He was later promoted to Captain and served in Colonel Samuel Brewer's Regiment from August, through December, 1776. Reference: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War", Vol. "F", P. 739.
162. Private
Zebediah
Fitch Enlisted 5 October, 1776, in Captain Josiah Russell's Company of Rangers. He fought under Colonel Jonathan Chase at

Ticonderoga, 27 June, to 4 July, 1777. Reference: "New Hampshire in the Revolutionary War", Vol. 1, P. 394.

163. Private Zebulon Fitch Although unable to find this man's service record, he is shown in other records to have served in the Revolution. "Files of the State Society of Colonial Wars in California", Sons of the Revolution Library, Los Angeles, California.
164. Private Zephania Fitch, Jr. Marched on the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, from Lebanon, Connecticut, and served 16 days. Reference: "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Services During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783", Vol. 1, P. 15.
165. Private Zoraster Fitch
6C-A6B1C Served in Captain John Spafford's Company, Colonel Warren's Regiment, from 27 March, 1780, to 30 October, 1781. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary War Soldiers". Pp. 166 and 475. (Zoraster Fitch was the third son of Jonathan Fitch and brother of David Fitch who married Sarah Surdam).
166. Private Zorflus Fitch Served at the Alarms in Captain John Spafford's Company, Colonel Ebenezer Allen's Regiment on the 10-11 June, 1781. Reference: "State of Vermont Rolls of Revolutionary War Soldiers", P. 379.
166. Private Doctor Fitch Incomplete Muster Rolls fail to show this man's name other than "Doctor" Fitch. He served in Captain McNitt's Company, Colonel Webster's Regiment of New York Troops. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York, 'The Revolution' ", Vol 1, P. 372.

167. Private Elitha Fitch Incomplete data fails to show extent of service, however he is shown to have served in Captain McNitt's Company, General Webster's Regiment of New York Troops. Reference: "Archives of the State of New York, 'The Revolution' ", Vol. 1, P. 372.
168. Private Jub'r Fitch Muster Rolls do not show this man's complete Christened name. He served in Captain Salisbury's Company, Colonel Whiting's Regiment of New York Troops. Reference. "Archives of the State of New York, 'The Revolution' ", Vol. 1, P. 372.

The foregoing is a list of Fitches who served in military or naval forces during the Revolutionary War. Although the list is not complete it represents more than 15 years of data gathering on the Fitch clan in America. Where numbers and letters are shown below the veteran's name that person has been identified as a descendant of the Connecticut branch of the Fitch family in America.

CHAPTER XV

SPEECHES BY THE WRITER AT FAMILY GATHERINGS

On Sunday afternoon, August 21, 1966, one hundred and twenty-six persons gathered at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Sylvan Lake, Alberta, to attend a reunion of descendants of the Fitch family. The afternoon activities commenced at 2 p.m. with a turkey dinner. Seated at the head table were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fitch, of Red Deer, Alberta, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fitch of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, Mr. and Mrs. George Fitch, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Fitch, both of Sylvan Lake, Alberta. The oldest member present, Mr. Clarence Fitch, 83 years old, and Mr. Lewis Fitch were sons of Mr. Orson David Fitch, who settled in the Sylvan Lake area in 1902. Mr. George Fitch represented the family of Earl B. Fitch, who was also a son of Orson David Fitch. Mr. Dan Fitch represented the family of his father, Mr. John Surdam Fitch, who was a first cousin to Mr. Orson David Fitch.

All persons present were presented with a convention badge bearing the Fitch coat of arms. Much credit for the occasion was due Mr. George Fitch who made all arrangements, and had done extensive study into the history of the Fitch family. After dinner, a short program was presented by the younger members of the families present, and Mr. George Fitch spoke briefly to the assembled guests, giving interesting historical facts of the family ancestors.

Guests at the occasion came from the following places: Chilliwack, Mission City and Kelowna in British Columbia; Sylvan Lake, Olds, Condor, Edmonton, Calmar, Red Deer, College Heights, Calgary, Caroline, Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House, and Hussar in Alberta.

Mr. Fitch's speech at this occasion:

"Brothers, Sisters, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nephews, Nieces, Sons, Daughters, In-laws, and Friends.

"This is a day I have been looking forward to these past two years. It has been in my mind and I have planned for it. It is indeed a high day for me and I hope it will be a day long remembered by each of us gathered here.

"Some of you at least know that about five years ago I began research on our Family ancestry. Those of you who are older will recall that 60 years ago Charles Surdam compiled and published a book, *The Genealogy of the Surdam Family*.

"Since the Surdams were run out in the male line, he included a number of families descendant of the female line, the Fitch family being the chief. David Fitch, my great-great-grandfather, was born May 8, 1769, at Salisbury, Connecticut, and married Sally Surdam in November 1796. Three sons were born to this union, of which two left issue, whose descendants are represented here today.

"I believe each of us will agree with Charles Surdam's statement, 'A person who feels no interest in the genealogy of his people and who does not know or care who his grandparents were, where they came from and how they lived, is not worthy of a noble ancestry, and most unworthy of his name.'

"To those of us here today I would say this: I am sure those of us who bear the name and blood of Fitch can be justly proud of those who have gone before and I trust we will determine to do nothing which will in any way tarnish that noble name.

"It isn't my intention to tire you by a lengthy address but I hope you will bear with me for a few minutes.

"This research work has been of tremendous interest to me and has occupied a bit of my time and effort, and also money.

"First let me say, I do not take credit for much of what I say here today. Many thousands of dollars have been spent in research in years past by others and I have been fortunate to gather the fruit of their labor for a few hundred.

"My chief source of information comes from Roscoe Conkling Fitch who compiled *A History of the Fitch Family from 1400 to 1930* and had it published in two volumes in 1930 at a loss of more than \$12,000.00 He also drew on work of others:

- I. Winchester Fitch, who spent 40 years in the work.
- II. Dr. William Edward Fitch, M.D. and author.
- III. Professor Asa Fitch, State Entomologist of New York.
- IV. Silas Hedding Fitch, of East Orange, N.J. . . . to mention a few.

"Early records of our ancestors are on file with the:

- I. College of Arms in London, England.
- II. Heralds Office in London where records are kept containing reports by the Heralds Visitations of Essex as far back as the reign of Richard III.
- III. British Museum and Oxford University.

"I am the 15th generation of a proven line. The Pedigree of Fitch, of which I have a reproduction of a photo copy, dates back to William Fitch whose death was reported at the Court of the Manor held April 24, 1466.

"Records in the College of Arms states: 'He received a grant of lands in the Manor of Widdington, County of Essex, 18 January, 1441. Bought other lands there from Richard Pelworth on 16 January, 1459.'

"Our family records have been traced back from son to father to this William Fitch. It has not been possible up to the present time to establish definitely the true origin of the Name. Some have contended that we are of Saxon origin and our ancestors settled in England under the reign of Hegsted in the 4th century.

"I am inclined rather to agree with the conclusion drawn by Dr. Fitch from the result of his investigation quoting from *Morants' History of Essex*. He has this to say: 'The Fitch family traces its first settlement in England

to the era of the Norman Conquest in 1066. Robert Gernon, a relative of William the Conqueror, came over and was given the Manor of Wraysbury in Essex. Here he built a castle on an artificially raised hill giving it the name of Montfitchet. Later his descendants took the name of the castle as their family name.'

"The fourth generation, Richard Montfitchet, was one of the Barons who wrested the Magna Charta from King John at Runnymede in 1215 and after the second signing in 1225, was appointed one of the 25 Barons to rule the realm.

"His third son was John, and tiring of the prefix, dropped it and spelled his name John Fitch. He was given armoural bearing in 1263 and was living in Fitch Castle in the parish of Widdington, Essex, in the 22nd year of the reign of Edward I. Edward ascended the throne in 1272.

"However, our first ancestor of a proven line remains William Fitch, whose death was reported in 1466.

"Our first ancestor in America was James Fitch, third son of Thomas Fitch and his wife Anne Reeve of Bocking County, Essex, England. James was born in England in 1622 and settled in Norwalk, Connecticut in 1638. He was ordained a minister of the Congregational Church in 1646; founded Lebanon, Connecticut, in 1660; and was commissioned a Captain Chaplain in the Colonial Army and granted Armoural Bearing. This Coat of Arms is a copy of the grant to Rev. James Fitch.

"I have a letter from the College of Arms in London which states: 'Arms are and have always been a grant from the Sovereign to an individual and his descendants forever. '

"I am the eighth generation from Rev. James and his second wife, Priscilla Mason.

"There have been many outstanding men among the Essex line of the Fitch family. It is not possible in a short talk to say much, but there have been men from every walk of life: preachers, teachers, lawyers, doctors, sailors,

soldiers, merchants, manufacturers, inventors, authors, and lowly tillers of the soil.

“Alfred Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate in the reign of Queen Victoria, was a grandson of the Rev. Stephen Fitch.

“Rev. James Fitch’s first wife was a descendant of John of Gaunt, son of Edward III. Also in her line were the Poet Shelley, as well as Godfrey Chaucer, often termed the grandfather of English Poetry.

“I suppose I could stand here and talk for hours, but that must not be. **But just a moment more —**

“It has been my plan to write up an account of our family history and get it published. However, a distant cousin of ours who has spent 15 years of research, and who now has our records, is in the process of preparing a three volume genealogy for publication. This will be a far cry from anything I could do and I hope each of us here will plan to secure these three volumes as soon as they are published.

“I have had considerable correspondence with Ray and I can assure you he has a tremendous amount of records which will be of interest to all of us.

“If there are any questions that I can answer, we could possibly take a few minutes more.”

The following address was given at the Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary of Clarence H. Fitch and Jennie Wynne Fitch held at the Centerville Community Center in November, 1967. Numerous relatives and friends were present to honor them on this occasion.

“Let me address you here this afternoon, not as ladies and gentlemen, but rather as friends.

“First, let me extend to you a warm welcome and a heartfelt thank you for your presence here.

“Looking around, I see some who are in their youth and prime with an eye to the future and others who have been longer on the way and can look into the past. Those of us who are more advanced in years are often heard to say, ‘I remember.’ Those memories are a mixture of both

joy and disappointment. But someone has said, 'It is not possible to know true happiness without having known some sorrow.' This afternoon I am sure each of us will recall with joy the days and experiences which have brought us pleasure and happiness.

"Uncle Clarence and Aunt Jennie have passed a milestone few are permitted to reach. Sixty-five years ago Uncle Clarence came to this area which at that time was little more than a wilderness. Five years later, his and Aunt Jennie's ways became one. They built a little cabin just across the road from the school here and began life together.

"Those were hard years. Few of those present here today can visualize the struggle of the pioneer. Sometimes I feel that the present generation fail to honour the men and women of those bygone days. The struggle tested the strongest in heart and it was those men and women who laid the foundation and made this land what it is today.

"With all due respect to the present generation, I feel that in one respect the youth of today are faced with conditions similar to those which prevailed in Sodom of old: 'Fulness of bread and an abundance of idleness.'

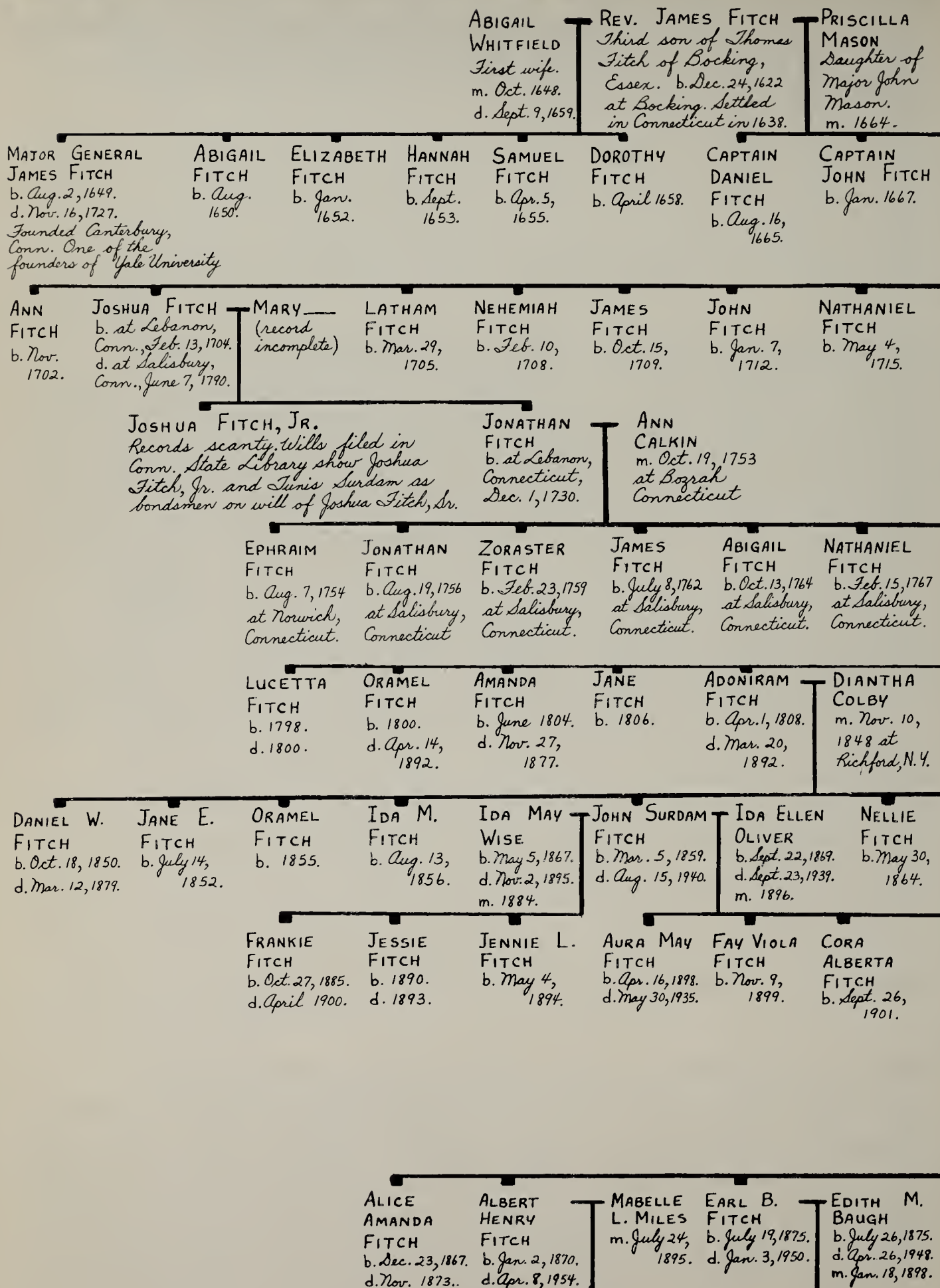
"Let me explain: True, we often complain, but really we must admit we lack for little, and we have every convenience. How different in the day of the pioneer: no cars, no electricity with all it can give us, no central heating, no water on tap, no gravel or paved roads, and no money. The youth of today can not believe the determination and intestinal fortitude that it took to persevere sixty years ago.

"I must mention one thing more, and that was the labor involved in getting fuel for the long cold winter to heat the poor houses. Those early years Uncle Clarence had a small stationary engine with which he sawed wood for the settlers for miles around, while Aunt Jennie kept the home fires burning. What a change! No light switches, no thermostats. Instead, coal oil lamps and axe handles.

"I am glad today, we can come together to honour

a real pioneer couple. I am glad also that they are being honoured by our government leaders. Uncle Clarence is the last surviving member of those who homesteaded in what was later to become the Centerville district, and I feel it most fitting that we could gather in his place so near to where he and Aunt Jennie began life together sixty years ago."

Line of Descent



From Rev. James

CAPTAIN
JEREMIAH
FITCH
b. 1671.

REV. JABEZ
FITCH
b. April
1672.

ANNE
FITCH
b. Oct.
1675.

ANN ABEL
First wife.
m. Dec. 10,
1701.

CAPTAIN
NATHANIEL
FITCH
b. Oct. 1679.
d. May 4,
1759.

MINDWELL
TISDALE
m. Sept. 17,
1727.

JOSEPH
FITCH
b. Nov.
1681.

DEACON
ELEAZER
FITCH
b. May 14,
1683.

MEHITABLE
FITCH
b. Feb. 3,
1717.

ELIZABETH
FITCH
b. May 26,
1718.

RACHEL
FITCH
b. Oct.
1720.

ABEL
FITCH
b. Nov. 22,
1722.

CALEB
FITCH
b. June 17,
1725.

JABEZ
FITCH
b. Oct. 14,
1730.

EZEKIEL
FITCH
b. Mar. 11,
1732.

ISAAC
FITCH
b. May 10,
1734.
*Executor of
parents' will.*

DAVID
FITCH
b. May 8, 1769
at Salisbury,
Connecticut
d. Feb. 24, 1846
at Richford, N.Y.

SARAH
SURDAM
*Daughter of
Tunis and
Jane Surdam.*
m. Nov. 1, 1796
at Salisbury.

BETTE
FITCH
b. July 25, 1771
at Salisbury,
Connecticut.

JOSHUA
FITCH
b. May 23, 1777
at Salisbury,
Connecticut.

EZRA
FITCH
b. —
at Salisbury,
Connecticut.

JOHN S.
FITCH
b. Feb. 28, 1811 at Richford,
Tioga Co., N.Y.
d. Feb. 12, 1861.

MARIA MOORE
*Daughter of Jesse
and Cynthia Moore.*
b. Oct. 28, 1820.
d. Mar. 23, 1860.
m. July 4, 1844.

SARAH ELIZA
FITCH
b. Sept. 3, 1814.

LYDIA CORNELIA
FITCH
b. Mar. 23, 1817.

EDWIN
FITCH
b. June 1,
1869.

BUDD
FITCH
b. Apr. 21, 1903.
d. Nov. 5, 1954.

DANIEL
LORNE
FITCH
b. Aug. 23,
1904.

GRACE
BELLE
FITCH
b. Feb. 3, 1908.
d. Jan. 1, 1956.

DIANTHA
FITCH
b. May 8, 1914.

ELIZABETH
S. FITCH
b. Mar. 12,
1846.

ORSON DAVID
FITCH
b. Sept. 8, 1847 at
Richford, Tioga Co.,
N.Y.
d. Feb. 12, 1934.

DELIA RUTH
CLARK
b. July 18, 1850 at
Caroline Center, N.Y.
d. Mar. 13, 1918.
m. Mar. 7, 1867.

CYNTHIA
M. FITCH
b. Oct. 6, 1849.
d. Feb. 4, 1935.

ANN E.
FITCH
b. Oct. 28,
1851.

HUBERT JOHN
FITCH
b. Oct. 31, 1851.
d. Dec. 16, 1936.

ADELE M.
FITCH
b. July 29,
1856.
d. Dec. 13,
1883.

PAUL B.
FITCH
b. Nov. 3, 1877.
d. Apr. 18, 1931.

GENEVA M.
PATRICK
b. Apr. 20, 1886.
d. Mar. 14, 1926.
m. Apr. 29, 1904.

ROBERT G.
FITCH
b. Mar. 30, 1880.
d. Nov. 5, 1884.

CLARENCE
H. FITCH
b. Feb. 2,
1883.

JENNIE
WYNNE
b. Oct. 22, 1892.
d. Nov. 10, 1969.
m. Nov. 1907.

ORSON D.
FITCH
b. Feb. 2,
1883.
d. Feb. 27,
1888.

LEWIS J.
FITCH
b. Sept. 6,
1892.

THERESA
M. BROWN
b. Sept. 25,
1898.
m. May 17,
1915.

Pedigree

WILLIAM FICHE, otherwise FYCHE

Born about 1400. Received a grant of lands in the Manor of Widdington, Co. Essex, 18 January 1441. Bought other lands there from Richard Pelworth 16 January 1459. Death reported at Court of the Manor held 24 April 1466.

JOHN FYTCHE

Found to be heir of his father by Inquisition, 24 January 1466 and 14 May 1467, he being then aged 30 years and more. Death reported at the Court of the Manor of Widdington held 9 April 1468.

JULIANA

Appointed guardian of her son, Thomas, 9 April 1468. Death reported at Court of the Manor of Widdington held 9 November 1514.

RICHARD WESTERLEY

Second husband.

THOMAS FITCH, of Brasonhead in the Parish of Lindsell aforesaid. Found to be heir of his father's lands by Inquisition 9 April 1468, he being aged 3 years. Admitted to his inheritance 8 November 1487 and to his mother's lands in Widdington 9 November 1514. Death reported at Court of the Manor of Lindsell 23 December 1514 and at Court of the Manor of Widdington 9 November 1514.

AGNES ALGORE, Only daughter and heir. Admitted tenant of her father's lands 21 December 1493. Died before 25 September 1533.

RICHARD FITCH, eldest son succeeded to his father's lands in the Manor of Widdington 9 November 1514.

WILLIAM FITCH

Living 1514.

ROGER FITCH, admitted tenant of Hartshede estate in Lindsell (being his mother's lands) 25 September 1533. Mentioned in Court Rolls of Widdington 6 May 1546.

MARGERV

executrix of her husband's will in 1559.

GEORGE FITCH, of Braintree, afterwards Suffolk. Born 1537. Died 1605. Married 13 September 1574.

JOAN THURGOOD of Elsenham, Co. Essex. First wife.

THOMAS FITCH, of Bocking, Co. Essex. Born 1590. Died 1632. Married at Bocking, Co. Essex, 8 August 1611.

ANNE, daughter of John Reeve of Gosfield, Essex. Mentioned in her father's will 1620. Sole executrix of her husband's will, 1633, and to her son, Nathaniel, in 1649. Living in Hartford, Connecticut 21 October 1669.

THOMAS FITCH of Bocking, afterwards Norwalk, Connecticut. Mentioned in his father's will 1632.

ANN, daughter of William Stacie of Bocking. Married 1 November 1632. Mentioned in her father's will 1650.

JOHN FITCH

Mentioned in father's will 1632; then under 21 years of age.

ABIGAIL, daughter of Rev. Henry Whitfield. Married October 1648. Died 9 September 1659.

MAJOR GENERAL JAMES FITCH
Eldest son. Born 2 August 1649.

of Fitch

This Pedigree has been prepared from records which are registered in the College of Arms, London, and were supplied in 1929 by A. J. Butler, Portcullis of the College at that time.

The records were further verified in a letter to Mr. Fitch dated March 16, 1965 from R P Graham-Vivian, M.V.D., M.C., Windsor Herald, College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London, E. C. 4., England.

THOMAS FITCH
*Admitted tenant of
the lands in the
Manor of Widdington
3 May 1527.*

MARGARET, eldest
*daughter and was
aged about 11 years
in 1505.*

KATHARINE, mentioned
*in settlement in
1505.*

JOAN, mentioned in
settlement in 1505.

THE REV. JAMES FITCH,
*of Saybrook, Connecticut.
Died 15 November 1702.*

PRISCILLA,
*daughter of
Major John
Mason. Married
2 October 1664.*

SAMUEL FITCH
*Born 9 November
1626. Settled in
Hartford, Connecti-
cut 1650.*

JOSEPH FITCH
*Settled in Norwalk,
Connecticut, 1650.
Later in Northampton,
Massachusetts, then
Hartford, Connecti-
cut and Windsor
in 1672*

CAPTAIN NATHANIEL FITCH
*Twelfth descendant of Rev.
James Fitch. Born October
1679.*



Sarah "Surdam" Fitch. (Chapter IV)



Daniel W. Fitch. Taken about 1880. (Chapter V)



Edd Fitch and wife Mary "Wynne" Fitch. Taken about 1915. (Chapter V)



John Surdam Fitch. Taken about 1880. (Chapter VI)



Ida May "Wise" Fitch, wife of John Surdam Fitch. Married 1884.
(Chapter VI)



Ida May "Oliver" Fitch (on the right), wife of John Surdam Fitch. Married 1896. (Chapter VI)



John Surdam Fitch and family. (Chapter VI)

Front row: Angus Connon, Dan Fitch, Mac Connon, (Haldo Lund, Tord Holgren, family friends), Frank Ha en, Jim Connon, Budd Fitch.

Second row: John Surdam Fitch.

Third row: Joan Fitch, Jessie Hazen, Jennie Ferguson, Cora Connon.

Fourth row: Laura Fitch.



Fitches, July 4, 1899. Mrs. Orson David Fitch, Paul, Leonard, Mr. Orson David Fitch, Maybelle, Clarence, Hubert J., Lewis. (Chapter VIII)



Budd and Laura "Ardell" Fitch. Taken 1930. (Chapter VI)



Dan and Millie "Halstein" Fitch. Taken 1958. (Chapter VI)



Delia Ruth "Clark" Fitch, wife of Orson David Fitch. Taken about 1880.
(Chapter VIII)



Orson David Fitch family taken 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Earl B. Fitch and baby George, Hubert J., Clarence H., Henry, Maybelle, Mrs. and Mr. O. D. Fitch. Front row: A family friend and Lewis Fitch. (Chapter VIII)



Orson D. Fitch homestead in Alberta. Taken about 1906. (Chapter VIII)



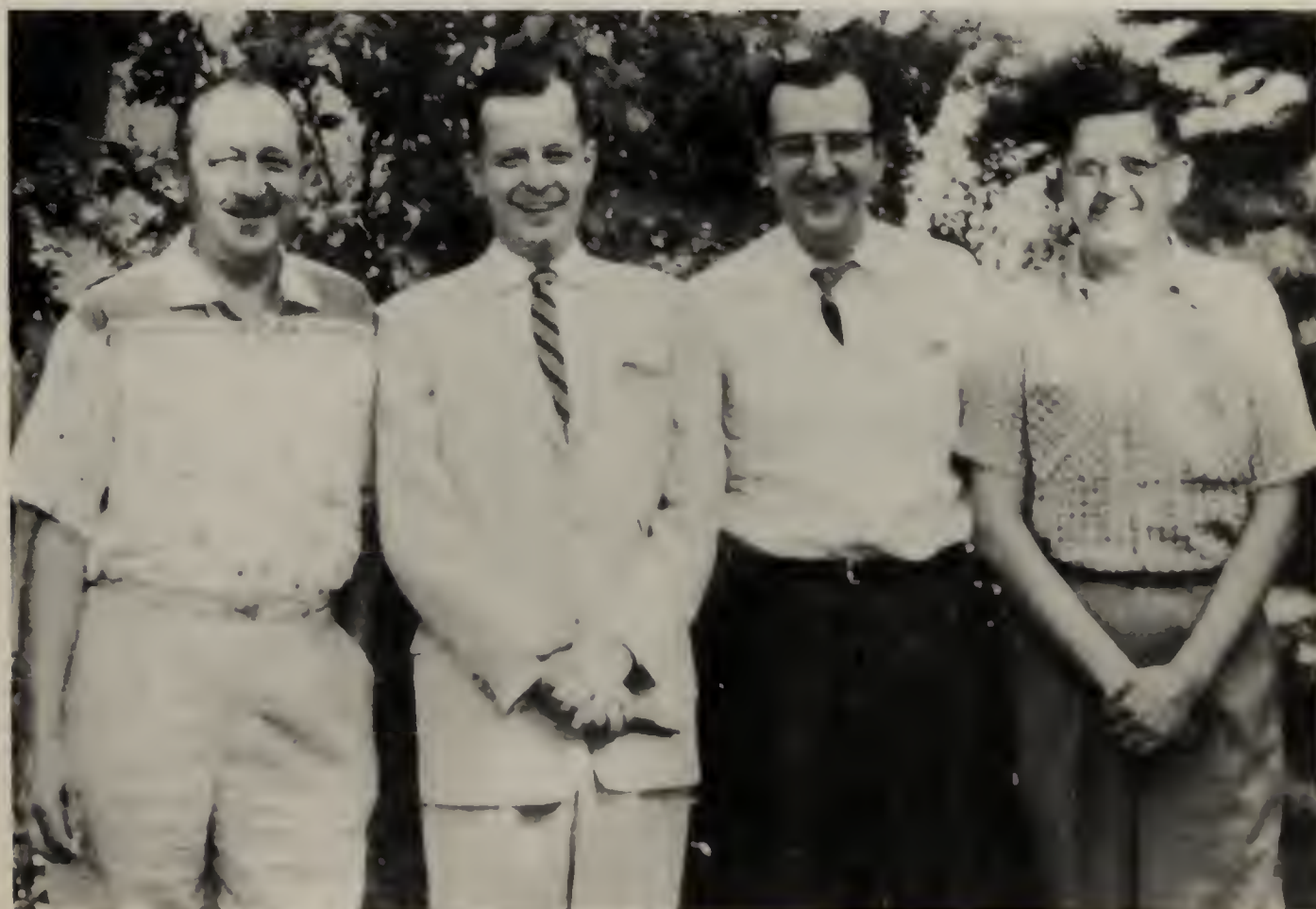
Orson D. Fitch, Cynthia "Fitch" "Wattles" Boyce, Hubert J. Fitch. Taken August 1911. (Chapter VIII)



Orson Leonard Fitch. (Chapter IX)



Viola J. "Moses" Fitch, wife of Orson Leonard Fitch. (Chapter IX)



Sons of Orson Leonard Fitch. Marion, Keith, Richard, and Kenneth.
(Chapter IX)



Richard "Dick" R. Fitch and family.
Dick's mother-in-law, daughter Beverly, wife Barbara, Dick, Russell, Brian,
Dick's mother. (Chapter IX)



Kenneth L. Fitch, his wife Jeanne, children — Roger, Maggie, David.
(Chapter IX)



Three sons of Orson David Fitch.
Earl B., Paul B., Henry. Taken about 1890. (Chapters IX, X, XI)



Richard Martin, daughter Ricarda, Alice (Fitch) Martin. Taken 1961. (Chapter XI).



Mabelle (Fitch) Turk, Alice (Fitch) Martin, Ruth (Fitch) (Thomas) Walker. Taken 1969. (Chapter XI.)



Neva, wife of Paul B. Fitch, with daughter, Ruth. Taken about 1907.
(Chapter XI)



Ruth "Fitch" Walker and husband, Herb. Taken 1966. (Chapter XI)



Edith "Baugh" and Earl B. Fitch. Taken in 1947 for their Golden Anniversary. (Chapter X)



Earl B. Fitch children seated.
 Russell, Mina Fearey, Guy, Delia Bystrom and George Fitch.
 Standing: Aural, Jennie, Bernard Bystrom, Madge. (Chapter X)



Family of Delia "Fitch" Bystrom.
 Burness, Burdett, Delia "Fitch" Bystrom, Dorothy, Bert, Delia's husband,
 Bernard, and grandchildren. (Chapter X)



George Fitch family. Alice, Madge, Edith, George, Victor, Earl. Taken 1970. (Chapter X)



Children of Delia "Fitch" Bystrom.
Burdett, Dorothy, Burness. (Chapter X)



Bert Bystrom, son of Delia "Fitch" Bystrom. Taken 1958. (Chapter X)



Mina "Fitch" Fearey family. Audrey, Murray, Albert, Mina and Bert Fearey, Gordon, Joyce. (Chapter X)



Mina "Fitch" and Bert Fearey. Taken at time of Bert's retirement from the Alberta Government Telephone Company. (Chapter X)



Sons of Russell W. Fitch.
Paul, Leo, Mervin, Herbert. Taken 1962. (Chapter X)



Jennie, Guy Fitch and daughter, Marie. Taken 1971. (Chapter X)



Russell W. Fitch and wife, Aural "Rick". Taken 1938. (Chapter X)



Daughters of Russell W. Fitch.
Alberta and Amy. Taken 1963. (Chapter X)



Fitch Family Reunion.
George, Millie, Dan, Clarence, Jennie, Theresa, Lewis, Madge. Taken 1966.
(Chapter XV)



Children of Clarence H. Fitch. Seated: May and Ellen Standing: Eddie, Cecil, Vernon and Arthur. Taken 1963. (Chapter XII)



Lewis J. Fitch and family. Taken May 17, 1965 for Golden Anniversary.
Seated: Theresa and Lewis
Standing: Clara, Delphene, Bert, Laretta, Olive. (Chapter XIII)



Lewis, Clarence, Jennie, Theresa Fitch. Taken 1967 at Clarence and Jennie's Diamond Anniversary. (Chapters XII, XIII, XV)



Grandchildren of Earl B. Fitch.
Victor, Amy, Marie Fitch and Burdett Bystrom singing Grandpa's favorite
song, "My Sheep Know My Voice," at the Fitch Family Reunion in 1966.
(Chapter XV)



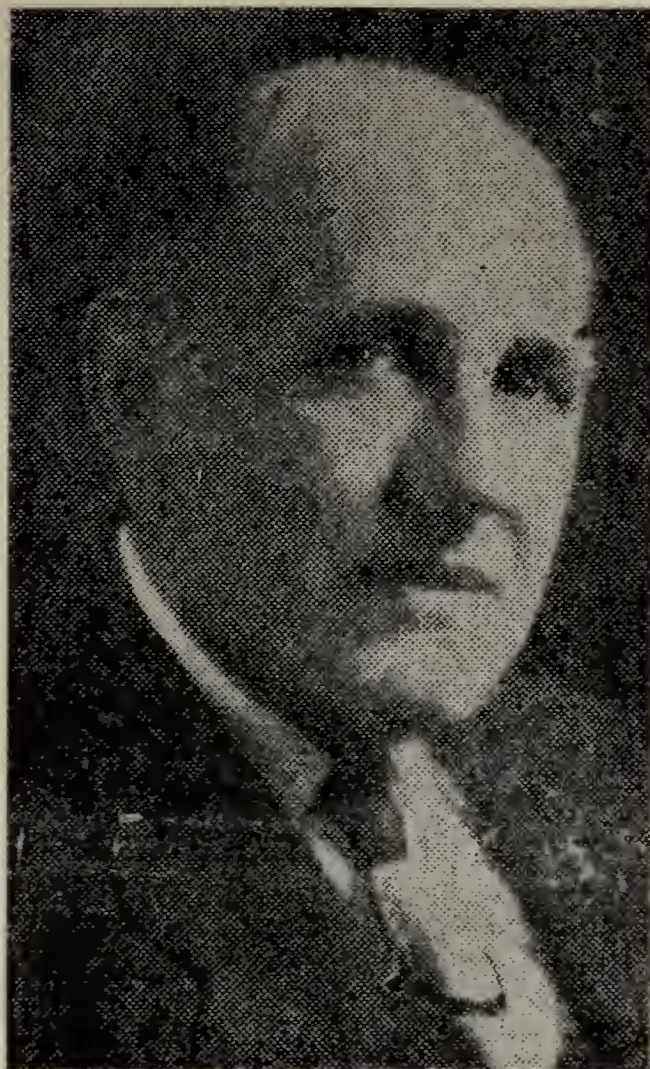
Raymond L. Fitch with George Fitch. Taken February 1968. (Chapter XV)



Roscoe Conkling Fitch. (Chapter XIV)



Winchester Fitch spent 40 years doing research on the Fitch genealogy.



R. L. Fitch. (Chapter XV)



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. George Fitch
Box 1067 Sylvan Lake
Alberta, Canada

July 29, 1963

Dear Mr. Fitch:

We have received your request in regard to the book, History of the Fitch Family, 1400-1930, compiled by Roscoe C. Fitch. There is an entry in the Library of Congress Catalog of Printed Cards for the two volume work. The call number is CS 71.F545. I suggest that you write to the Library of Congress in regard to the book. They may be able to tell you of other libraries where it is available or whether it may be possible to borrow the volumes on interlibrary loan.

The address for Library of Congress is:

Loan Division

Library of Congress

First Street Betw. East Capitol & Independence Ave., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20540

I hope that the above information will be of help to you in your search for this history.

Very truly yours,

Anne J. Raley

(Mrs.) Anne J. Raley

Chief, General Reference Div.



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
LOAN DIVISION

August 26, 1963

Sir:

This letter is in response to your request of August 19 regarding the availability of History of the Fitch Family 1400-1930 by Roscoe C. Fitch. The Library of Congress does have a copy; however, we do not allow genealogy books to circulate for interlibrary loan.

The National Union Catalog lists eight libraries as having the book including the Cleveland Public Library, the New York Public Library, and the Boston Public Library.

The Library of Congress Photoduplication Service will make a photocopy of the book for a fee provided there are no copyright restrictions. Any inquiry regarding photocopies should be directed to the Photoduplication Service.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald C. Curran".

Donald C. Curran
Acting Chief of Loan Division

Mr. George Fitch
Box 1067, Sylvan Lake
Alberta, Canada

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37 HARRINGTON GARDENS
LONDON, S.W.7

(NEAR GLOUCESTER ROAD STATION)

11th November 1964

Mr. George Fitch,
Box 1067 Sylvan Lake,
Alberta, Canada.

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 5th May I am now able to enclose herewith a report on the early Fitch family, the derivation of the name, and the Arms associated with it.

Some very extensive enquiries have been recently carried out in this country with regard to the Fitch family and the enclosed details summarise the present position. It would certainly seem that most of the available English material has been exhausted and it is now unlikely that the ancestry of the William Fitch who died in 1466 will ever be carried further back.

I trust that the report, which has exhausted your remittance, is of some interest to you.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony J. Camp

Anthony J. Camp

Director of Research.

From

R. P. GRAHAM-VIVIAN, M.V.O., M.C.
WINDSOR HERALD
CITY 6140

COLLEGE OF ARMS,
QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 4.

February 2, 1965,

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 7th. ult., a search can be made in the Records of the College for all entries of Arms and Pedigrees in the name of Fitch, the fee for which search would be £4.4.0. I know we have some Pedigrees in the name.

I would also include any details I can find from miscellaneous and local material in our Library.

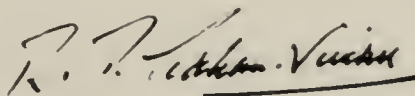
The above, however, does not include an illustration of any Arms. The only way we issue these is as a hand-done painting by our own artist, and this is naturally rather expensive. I should moreover, need evidence that you were entitled to the Arms.

Arms are (and always were) granted by the Sovereign to a particular individual and his descendants for ever. In order to establish a right to any existing Arms, it is necessary to prove descent from either the original Grantee or from one of his descendants already entered on a Registered Pedigree in the College Records.

It also follows that, as Fitch is not an uncommon name in the Eastern Counties of England, there may be Fitches who are not entitled to any Arms because they do not descend from a Grantee, or cannot prove it.

It would be worthwhile, however, having this search made, which will give you all the entries of the name we have and I will try to see if your line joins up with anything on record here.

Yours truly,



George Fitch, Esq., Windsor Herald.
Box, 1067, Sylvan Lake,
Alberta,
Canada.

From

R. P. GRAHAM-VIVIAN, M.V.O., M.C.
WINDSOR HERALD
CITY 6140

COLLEGE OF ARMS.
QUEEN VICTORIA STREET.
LONDON, E.C. 4.

16th March 1965.

Dear Sir,

I have now made a search in the Records of the College regarding the family and Arms of Fitch.

It is fortunate that between the two Wars a great deal of research was done on the Essex Fitches by a wealthy London gentleman of the name, now dead. This resulted in proved Pedigrees of several lines in our Records, much more complete than most.

First I looked at the printed List of New England Clergy and checked on the Rev. James Fitch. He is there said to be born 24 Dec. 1622 at Bocking, Essex (not Brocking, as you have it), the son of Thomas and Ann (Pew) Fitch, came to New England 1638, ordained at Old Saybrook, Ct., 1646, as first minister, was settled there 1646 - 60, then at Norwich, Ct., 1660 - 1702, died at Lebanon, Ct., 18 Nov. 1702, aged 80.

I then turned to our Records, and found a registered Pedigree, starting with Thomas Fitch of Widdington, Essex, and his wife Joane, who had Thomas Fitch of Brasonhead in the parish of Lindsell (d. 1514), who married Agnes, dau. and heir of Robert Alger. (You will see where this comes on your own information).

Thomas and Agnes had Roger of Panfield and Bocking (d. 1558/9), who had George of Braintree, Essex, and later of Sudbury, Suffolk (d. 1605), who married 3 wives who all had issue.

George had, by his 1st wife Joan Thurgood, Thomas Fitch of Bocking (d. 1632/3, who married Anne Reeve. (This accords with what you say, but the N.E. Clergy List must be wrong in calling her Pew. It may be due to some one having misread the old writing in the original Register. We have here a printed copy of the earlier Bocking Registers, which show the marriage of Thomas Fytch and Anne Reve on 8 Aug. 1611.)

Thomas and Anne had the Rev. James Fitch of Saybrook, Connecticut (d. 1702), who married (1) Abigail, dau. of Rev. Henry Whitfield, who d. 1659, and (2) Priscilla, dau. of Major John Mason, married in 1666. An "issue mark" is shown to both, and here our Pedigree ends on this line.

The earlier portion of this Pedigree, with additional brothers and sisters in many places, is also in the Essex Visitations of 1614 and 1634, which show the Arms allowed to the family, which are:- Vert a chevron between three leopards' faces or. Crest, a leopard's face holding in the mouth a broken sword.

There are various other lines in the Visitation, all coming from the same stock.

In 1700, Sir Comport Fitch, of Eltham and Mount Mascal, Co. Essex, son and heir of Sir Thomas Fitch of Eltham, Knt. and Bart., had a

2091 Locksley Place
Los Angeles, Calif. 90039
July 13, 1965.

Dear Mr. Fitch:

Your interesting letter arrived in the morning mail and I will try to answer your many inquiries.

For more than 15 years much of my spare time has been devoted to the gathering of data for the compiling of a history of the Fitch family in America and I have catalogued and indexed more than 5,000 Fitches.

My records show that you were christened Orson George Fitch (Called George), no place of birth recorded, born 7 September, 1899, married 5 March, 1930, no place recorded, Madge Emerson, and have ~~four~~ children: Earl, Edith, Victor and Alice.

You are the son of Earl Burdette and Edith Maria Baugh Fitch; grandson of Orson David and Ruth Delia Fitch; great-grandson of John and Maria Moore Fitch; great-great-grandson of David and Sarah Surdam Fitch; and a linear descendant of Reverend James Fitch and Priscilla Mason, through Reverend Jabez, Captain Nathaniel, Joshua, Jonathan and the fore-mentioned David and Sarah Surdam Fitch.

The Coat of Arms of Reverend James Fitch has been amply authenticated by the following: Mathew's "American Armory and Blue Book, page 304; "The Book of Family Crests", Published by Reeves and Turner, 196 Strand, London, England, Vol. 2, page 177; Crozier's "General Armory", pages 57 - 58; and, "New England Historical and Genealogical Register", Vol. 82, P. 156.

A letter to Martin & Allardyce, 202 Belden Avenue, Box 6126, Harlandale Station, San Antonio, Texas, with \$1 U. S. enclosed and a request for a copy (black and white) with a description should give you a copy and description.

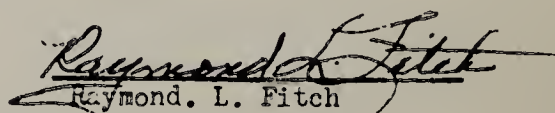
The information ^{Charles} I have on Reverend ~~John~~ Fitch follows:
~~Charles~~ Fitch, born 22 December, 1804, at Lisbon, New London County, Connecticut; married in 1827 Zerviah Roath (no data on her). Lived at Addington and Boston, Massachusetts, Cleveland, Ohio, and Buffalo, New York, where he died 14, October, 1844. He is reputed to have had 9 children, 4 of whom died in 1844. No further data on his offspring.
Reverend Charles Fitch was the son of Corporal Daniel Fitch and his 2nd wife Zipporah Allen; Grandson of William and Mary Paine Fitch; Great-Grandson of Daniel and Anna Cooke Fitch; Great-great-grandson of Major James Jr. and his 2nd wife Alice (Bradford) Adams Fitch; and Great-great-great-grandson of Reverend James and his 1st wife Abigail Whitfield Fitch.

I would appreciate all the information you have on your family as I am about to publish my history and want it as complete as possible. Many dates and places are missing.

On a separate page I am listing references which will authenticate your lineage from David and Sarah Surdam Fitch back to Reverend James Fitch.

Thanking you for your inquiry, I am

Sincerely,


Raymond. L. Fitch

References:

- "New England Historical and Genealogical Register", Vol. Pages 15, 120-1;
- "New York Genealogical and Biographical Record", Vol. 64, Pages 34-38;
- "The Abel Family in America", Pages, 37, 62-3;
- "Old Houses of the Ancient Town of Norwich (Conn.)", Page 455;
- "Genealogy of the Fitch Family", by John G. Fitch, Pages 99-100;
- "Early Connecticut Marriages", Book 1, Page 58, Book 2, Page 40, Book 4, Page 77, and Book 5, Pages 42, 43, and 51;
- "The Waterman Genealogy", Vol. 1, Page 623;
- "Franklin Church Records", Page 41;
- "Manuscript of Drs. William E. & Asa Fitch" (unpublished)
- "1790 Census of Kinderhook, Columbia County, New York",
- "1790 Census of Coxsackie, Albany County, New York", Page 24;
- "Boston Transcript", issue of 25 February, 1929, #2742;
- "Historical Collection of the Town of Salisbury, Conn.", Vol. 1, Pages 45-6, Vol. 2, Pages 67-8;
- "Norwich (Conn.) Vital Records", Vol. 1, Pages 157 & 357;
- "History of the Reed Family", P. 217;
- "The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military & Naval Services During the Revolutionary War", Pages 227 & 569;
- "New York in the Revolution as Colony & State", Vol. 1. Page 485;
- "Ancient Windsor", by Stiles, Vol. 2, Page 262;
- "New England Historical and Genealogical Register", Vol. 52, Page 130; Vol. 46, Page 323; Vol. 102,
- "American Marriages Before 1699"; Page 203;
- "History of Hingham", Page 20;
- "Births, Marriages & Deaths of Hartford, Windsor & Fairfield", Page 57;
- "Ancient Windsor Genealogies";
- "Miner and Allied Families of Connecticut", Pages 99 - 101;
- "Ye Historie of Greenwich (Conn.)", Pages 495-501 & 647-9;
- "History of the Fitch Family", by Roscoe C. Fitch, Vol. 1, Pages 35-6;
- "History of Fairfield, Connecticut".

2698 Locksley Place
Los Angeles, Calif. 90039
August 5, 1965.

Dear George:

Your letter of July 29 arrived yesterday and I was glad to receive the corrections, although I had recorded your date of marriage as 5 November, 1930, and can't account for transcribing in my letter to March, I was glad to get your wife's real name and the other information.

I will try to answer your questions. I have not set a date for publication, and cannot until all pending information is in, recorded and included in the indices, the Fitch names in the index of Fitches - the spouse's name in the index of persons marrying Fitches.

With a few more than 5,000 Fitches and 2700 odd spouses, it appears the history and genealogy will fill 3 volumes. The selling price of the 3 volumes will depend largely on what kind of a deal I can negotiate with the publishers and the number of volumes printed. I can't give you even a hint as to the cost.

There are many accounts of the origin of the name FITCH. One account states it developed from the estate name of Montfichet, another states it was derived from Fitz, and I have found 14 different ways the name was recorded, varying from Fych, Fyche, Fiche and Fich to the present spelling which apparently was adopted about 1600. No definite information is available. This much I have learned - I can find no evidence of a Fitch being convicted of a major crime.

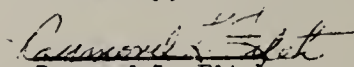
Records show that 162 men bearing the name Fitch served with the Colonists during the American Revolutionary War. Two brothers of David Fitch (son of Jonathan & Anne Calkins Fitch) Zoraster and James, both served in the Revolution. David's great-grandfather Captain Nathaniel Fitch was commissioned Captain in 1719, in the Militia, and served as Company Commander of South Company of Militia in 1726. Nathaniel's father, Rev. James Fitch, was commissioned a Captain Chaplain in the Continental Army.

Rev. James Fitch's oldest son, Major James Fitch, donated 637 acres of land and scarce building material (imported glass and hand-wrought nails) for the building of the first edifice of Yale College in 1701.

Enclosed you will find a one generation family chart filled out with what information I have which should serve as a guide in compiling the information you may wish to send me. You may keep it for your guidance.

Thanking you for your interest and trusting I may hear from you again soon, I am

Sincerely,


Raymond L. Fitch



Martin & Allardyce

MAIL ADDRESS
POST OFFICE BOX 14126
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78214

Authentically recorded Coats
Arms of English, Irish,
Scottish and Welsh origins.

FAMILY OF:

FITCH

ARMS: Vert, a chevron between three leopards' heads or.

CREST: A leopard's head embossed or, across the mouth a sword proper, hilted gules.

MOTTO: Spec juvat.

AUTHORITY: Crozier's "General Armory", 1904 edition, pages 57 and 58.
Bolton's "American Armory", 1927 edition, page 60.
Matthews' "American Armory", 1906 edition, addenda, page 33.

TINCTURES: The shield is of green.
The chevron is of gold.
The leopards' faces are of gold.
The leopard's face of the crest is of gold, sword of steel color or silver, with handle and guard of gold or red.
The wreath, under the crest, is of alternate twists of green and gold.
The helmet is of steel color.
The mantle is of green lined with gold.
The ribbon is of gold, motto lettered in black.

NOTES: Bolton, American authority, records the above described insignia as authentic for descendants of Governor Thomas Fitch, of Connecticut.
Crozier, another American authority, records the same as authentic for descendants of Thomas and James Fytche, from Essex, England, who came to America and settled in Norwalk, Connecticut, in the year 1638. The name is now written "FITCH" only.

Burke, in his "General Armory", 1844 and 1878 editions - records the above described insignia as authentic.

Helmet and mantle are purely ornamental features - permitted for use - under heraldic law - with any coat of arms and crest. These features may be used or omitted - at will of user.

We hereby certify that the insignia described above is recorded in the published heraldic authorities above cited.

MARTIN & ALLARDYCE

by:

Mary Martin Potter
Mary Martin Potter
Member of Firm

September 10th, 1965.

With this letter, Mr. Butler transmitted copies of the Fitch entries in the ancient Court Rolls now in possession of New College, Oxford. These ancient extracts as they were originally written in Latin and as translated into English by experts of the College of Arms, are presented in this chapter.

These researches revealed that the parents of Thomas Fitch who married Agnes Alger were NOT Thomas Fitch of Widdington, Co. Essex and his wife, Joane ——— as stated on the certified "Pedigree of Fitch" Chart No. 1, extracted from the Records of the College of Arms, but WERE John Fytche and his wife, Juliana ———.

The results of the original researches by the College of Arms are given herewith: *Correct record*

FITCH ANCESTRY IN ENGLAND FROM A. D. 1400

(As Certified by the College of Arms, London)

I WILLIAM FICHE, otherwise Fyche. Born about 1400. Received a grant of lands in the Manor of Widdington, Co. Essex, 18 January, 1441. Bought other lands there from Richard Pelworth, 16 January, 1459. Death reported at Court of the Manor held 24 April, 1466. He had a son:

II JOHN FYTCHE, found to be heir of his father by Inquisitions, 24 April 1466 and 14 May 1467, he being then aged 30 years and more. Death reported at Court of the Manor of Widdington held 9 April 1468.

He married Juliana ———. She was appointed guardian of her son, Thomas, 9 April, 1468. She married as second husband, Richard Westeley. Her death was reported at the Court of the Manor of Widdington held 9 November, 1514. John and Juliana Fytche had a son:

III THOMAS FITCH, found to be heir of his father by Inquisition 9 April 1468, he being then aged 3 years. He was admitted to his inheritance 8 November 1487 and to his mother's lands in Widdington 9 November 1514. His death was reported at the Court of the Manor of Lindsell 23 December 1514 and at Court of the Manor of Widdington 9 November 1514.

He married Agnes Alger, also written Algore, only child and heir of Robert Algore, lord of Castle Brasonhead and other lands. She was admitted tenant of her father's lands 21 December 1493. She died before 25 September, 1533.

Thomas and Agnes (Alger) Fitch had children. (See "Pedigree of Fitch" chart) :

- (1) RICHARD FITCH. He was the eldest son and succeeded to his father's lands in the Manor of Widdington, 9 November 1514.
- (2) WILLIAM FITCH. Records of him as living in 1514.
- (3) ROGER FITCH. He was admitted tenant of Hartshede, etc., in Lindsell (being his mother's lands), 25 September, 1533. He was mentioned in the Court Rolls of Widdington, May 6, 1546.
- (4) THOMAS FITCH. He was admitted tenant of the lands in the Manor of Widdington 3 May, 1527.
- (5) MARGARET FITCH. She was the eldest daughter and was aged about 11 years in 1505.
- (6) KATHARINE FITCH. She was mentioned in settlement, dated 1505.
- (7) JOAN FITCH. She was mentioned in settlement, dated 1505.

ALGER (ALGOR-ALGORE) ANCESTRY IN ENGLAND FROM YEAR 1409
(As Certified by the College of Arms, London.)

- I. JOHN ALGOR. He was mentioned in the Court Rolls of the Manor of Lindsell, County Essex, 30 November. 1409, and as holding lands called "Bynwodes" 1 January, 1413.
- II. WILLIAM ALGOR. He was mentioned in the Court Rolls of the Manor of Lindsell, 14 March, 1418.
- III. WILLIAM ALGORE. His death was reported at Court of the Manor of Lindsell, Co. Essex, held 3 March, 1468. He had son :
- IV. ROBERT ALGORE. He was found to be heir of his father by Inquisition 3 March, 1468. He made a settlement of lands called "Bynwodes" in Lindsell 22 December 1490. He was lord of Castle Brasonhead, capital mansion of his estate. His death was reported at Court of the Manor of Lindsell 21 December 1493.
He married Margaret ———. She made a settlement of lands in Lindsell on her Fitch granddaughters shortly before her death. Her death was reported at Court of the Manor of Lindsell 21 December 1505.
They had a daughter :
- V. AGNES ALGER (ALGORE) FITCH. She was the only child and heir. She married Thomas Fitch. She was admitted tenant of her father's lands 21 December 1493. She died before 25 September 1533. (For children see Fitch line.)

THOMAS FITCH, Esq;
Governor and Commander in Chief of His
Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in New-
England.

To *Nehemiah Grinnon* Gent. GREETING.

YOU being by the General Assembly of this Colony Accepted to be *Capt.* of the *1st Regt. of the Militia* and Confidence in your Loyalty, Courage and good Conduct, I do, by Virtue of the Letters Patents from the Crown of *England* to this Corporation, Me therefore En-
abling, Appoint and Impower you to take the said *Regt.* into your Care and Charge, as their *Capt.* carefully and diligently to discharge that Trust: Exercising your Interiour Officers and *Soldiers* in the Use of their Arms according the discipline of War, keeping them in good Order and Government, and commanding them to Obey you as their *Capt.* for His Majesty's Service. And you are to observe all such Orders and Directions as from Time to Time you shall receive either from Me, or from our your Superiour Officer, pursuant to the Trust hereby reposed in you. Given under my Hand and the Seal of this Colony in *Hartford* the *12* Day of *May* in the *33* Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord *GEORGE* the Second, KING of Great-Britain, &c. Annoque Domini, 1760

By His Honor's Command,
John Wyllys Secy.

Thos. Fitch

PHOTO OF COMMISSION SIGNED BY GOVERNOR THOMAS FITCH DURING THE PERIOD OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR
(1755-62)
(Courtesy of Joseph Porter Fitch of Chicago)

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